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"Novel human-G protein coupled receptor ",

en dat de hieraan gehechte stukken overeenstemmen met de oorspronkelijk ingediende stukken.

PRIORITY DOCUMENT

SUBMITTED OR TRANSMITTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 17.1(a) OR (b)

Rijswijk, 28 juli 2000.

De Directeur van het Bureau voor de Industriële Eigendom.

voor deze,

Mw. I.W Scheevelenbos-de Reus.

Chewelm les

Abstract

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The present invention relates to novel identified polynucleotides, polypeptides encoded by them and to the use of such polynucleotides and polypeptides, and to their production. More particularly, the polynucleotides and polypeptides of the present invention relate to the G-protein coupled receptor family, referred to as IGS4-family. The invention also relates to inhibiting or activating the action of such polynucleotides and polypeptides, to a vector containing said polynucleotides, a host cell containing such vector and transgenic animals where the IGS4-gene is either overexpressed, misexpressed, underexpressed or suppressed (knock-out animals) The invention further relates to a method for screening compounds capable to act as an agonist or an antagonist of said G-protein coupled receptor family IGS4 and the use of IGS4 polypeptides and polynucleotides and agonists or antagonists to the IGS4 receptor family in the treatment of CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, busidia, addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure langing pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombesis, dys ipidemias; Obesity; emesis; IBS, IBD, GERD, conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diebetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, funçai, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV 2; pain; cancers; ur hary retention, ulcers, asthma, allergies and benigh prostatic hypertrophy, among others and diagnostic assays for such conditions.



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Description

The present invention relates to novel identified polynucleotides, polypeptides encoded by them and to the use of such polynucleotides and polypeptides, and to their production. More particularly, the polynucleotides and polypeptides of the present invention relate to a G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR), hereinafter referred to as IGS4. IGS4 exists in two polymorphic forms, hereinafter referred to as IGS4A and IGS4B. The invention also relates to inhibiting or activating the action of such polynucleotides and polypeptides, to a vector containing said polynucleotides, a host cell containing such vector and transgenic animals where the IGS4-gene is either overexpressed, misexpressed, underexpressed or suppressed (knock-out animals). The invention further relates to a method for screening compounds capable to act as an agonist or an antagonist of said G-protein coupled receptor IGS4.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

It is well established that many medically significant biological processes are mediated by proteins participating in signal transduction pathways that involve G-proteins and/or second messengers; e.g., cAMP (Lefkowitz, Nature, 1991, 351:353-354). Herein these proteins are referred to as proteins participating in pathways with G-proteins. Some examples of these proteins include the GPC receptors, such as those for adrenergic agents and dopamine (Kobilka, B.K., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA, 1987, 84:46-50; Kobilka, B.K., et al., Science, 1987, 238:650-656; Bunzow, J.R., et al., Nature, 1988, 336:783-787), G-proteins themselves, effector proteins, e.g., phospholipase C, adenyl cyclase, and phosphodiesterase, and actuator proteins, e.g., protein kinase A and protein kinase C (Simon, M.I., et al., Science, 1991, 252:802-8).

For example, in one form of signal transduction, upon hormone binding to a GPCR the receptor interacts with the heterotrimeric G-protein and induces the dissociation of GDP from the guanine nucleotide-binding site. At normal cellular concentrations of guanine nucleotides, GTP fills the site immediately. Binding of GTP to the α subunit of the G-protein causes the dissociation of the G-protein from the receptor and the dissociation of the G-protein into α and $\beta\gamma$ subunits. The GTP-carrying form then binds to activated adenylate cyclase. Hydrolysis of GTP to GDP, catalyzed by the G-protein itself (α subunit possesses an intrinsic GTPase activity), returns the G-protein to its basal, inactive form. The GTPase activity of the α subunit is, in essence, an internal clock that controls an on/off switch. The GDP bound form of the α subunit has high affinity for $\beta\gamma$ and subsequent reassociation of α GDP with $\beta\gamma$ returns the system to the basal state. Thus the G-protein serves a dual role, as an intermediate that relays the signal from receptor to effector (in this example adenylate cyclase), and as a clock that controls the duration of the signal.

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The membrane bound superfamily of G-protein coupled receptors has been characterized as having seven putative transmembrane domains. The domains are believed to represent transmembrane α -helices connected by extracellular or cytoplasmic loops. G-protein coupled receptors include a wide range of biologically active receptors, such as hormone, viral, growth factor and neuroreceptors.

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The G-protein coupled receptor family includes dopamine receptors which bind to neuroleptic drugs used for treating CNS disorders. Other examples of members of this family include, but are not limited to calcitonin, adrenergic, neuropeptideY, somastotatin, neurotensin, neurokinin, capsaicin, VIP, CGRP, CRF, CCK, bradykinin, galanin, motilin, nociceptin, endothelin, cAMP, adenosine, muscarinic, acetylcholine, serotonin, histamine, thrombin, kinin, follicle stimulating hormone, opsin, endothelial differentiation gene-1, rhodopsin, odorant, and cytomegalovirus receptors.

Most G-protein coupled receptors have single conserved cysteine residues in each of the first two extracellular loops which form disulfide bonds that are believed to stabilize functional protein structures. The 7 transmembrane regions are designated as TM1, TM2, TM3, TM4, TM5, TM6 and TM7. The cytoplasmic loop which connects TM5 and TM6 may be a major component of the G-protein binding domain.

Most G-protein coupled receptors contain potential phosphorylation sites within the third cytoplasmic loop and/or the carboxy terminus. For several G-protein coupled receptors, such as the β -adrenoreceptor, phosphorylation by protein kinase A and/or specific receptor kinases mediates receptor desensitization.

Recently, it was discovered that certain GPCRs, like the calcitonin-receptor like receptor, might interact with small single pass membrane proteins called receptor activity modifying proteins (RAMP's). This interaction of the GPCR with a certain RAMP is determining which natural ligands have relevant affinity for the GPCR-RAMP combination and regulate the functional signaling activity of the complex (McLathie, L.M. et al., Nature (1998) 393:333-339).

For some receptors, the ligand binding sites of G-protein coupled receptors are believed to comprise hydrophilic sockets formed by several G-protein coupled receptor transmembrane domains, said sockets being surrounded by hydrophobic residues of the G-protein coupled receptors. The hydrophilic side of each G-protein coupled receptor transmembrane helix is postulated to face inward and form a polar ligand-binding site. TM3 has been implicated in several G-protein coupled receptors as having a ligand-binding site, such as the TM3 aspartate residue. TM5 serines, a TM6 asparagine and TI.15 or TM7 phenylalanines or tyrosines are also implicated in ligand binding.

G-protein coupled receptors can be intracellularly coupled by heteroic eric G-proteins to various intracellular enzymes, ion channels and transporters (see, Johnson et al., Endoc. Rev., 1989, 10:317-331). Different G-protein α -subunits preferentially stimulate particular effectors to modulate various biological functions in a cell. Phosphorylation of cytoplasmic residues of G-protein coupled receptors has been identified as an important mechanism for the regulation of G-protein coupling of some G-protein coupled receptors. G-protein coupled receptors are found in numerous sites within a mammalian host.

Receptors - primarily the GPCR class - have led to more than half of the currently known drugs (Drews, Nature Biotechnology, 1996, 14: 1516). This indicates that these receptors have an established, proven history as therapeutic targets. Clearly there is a need for identification and characterization of further receptors which can play a role in preventing, ameliorating or correcting dysfunctions or diseases, including, but not limited to CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, bulimia, stroke, addiction/ dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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In one aspect, the invention relates to IGS4 polypeptides (including the IGS4A and IGS4B polypeptide polymorphs) and recombinant materials and methods for their production. Another aspect of the invention relates to methods for using such IGS4 polypeptides and polynucleotides. Such uses include the treatment of CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Gilles Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, bulimia. dela addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; concitions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabet gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungai, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy, among others.

In still another aspect, the invention relates to methods to identify agonists and antagonists using the materials provided by the invention, and treating conditions associated with IGS4 imbalance with the identified compounds. Yet another aspect of the invention relates to diagnostic assays for detecting diseases associated with inappropriate IGS4 activity or levels. A further aspect of the invention relates to animal-based systems which act as models for disorders arising from aberrant expression or activity of IGS4.

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Table 1: IGS4A-DNA of SEQ 1....O: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 3

GGCTCAGCTTGAAACAGAGCCTCGTACCAGGGGAGGCTCAGGCCTTGGATTTTAATGTCA GGGATGGAAAAACTTCAGAATGCTTCCTGGATCTACCAGCAGAAACTAGAAGATCCATTC CAGAAACACCTGAACAGCACCGAGGAGTATCTGGCCTTCCTCTGCGGACCTCGGCGCAGC CACTTCTTCCTCCCCGTGTCTGTGGTGTATGTGCCAATTTTTGTGGTGGGGGTCATTGGC AATGTCCTGGTGTGCCTGGTGATTCTGCAGCACCAGGCTATGAAGACGCCCACCAACTAC TACCTCTTCAGCCTGGCGGTCTCTGACCTCCTGGTCCTGCTCCTTGGAATGCCCCTGGAG GTCTATGAGATGTGGCGCAACTACCCTTTCTTGTTCGGGCCCGTGGGCTGCTACTTCAAG ACGGCCCTCTTTGAGACCGTGTGCTTCGCCTCCATCCTCAGCATCACCACCGTCAGCGTG GAGCGCTACGTGGCCATCCTACACCCGTTCCGCGCCAAACTGCAGAGCACCCGGCGCCGG GCCCTCAGGATCCTCGGCATCGTCTGGGGCCTTCTCCGTGCTCTTCTCCCTGCCCAACACC AGCATCCATGGCATCAAGTTCCACTACTTCCCCAATGGGTCCCTGGTCCCAGGTTCGGCC ACCTGTACGGTCATCAAGCCCATGTGGATCTACAATTTCATCATCCAGGTCACCTCCTTC CTATTCTACCTCCTCCCCATGACTGTCATCAGTGTCCTCTACTACCTCATGGCACTCAGA CTAAAGAAAGACAAATCTCTTGAGGCAGATGAAGGGAATGCAAATATTCAAAGACCCTGC AGAAAATCAGTCAACAAGATGCTGTTTGTCTTGGTCTTAGTGTTTTGCTATCTGTTGGGCC CCGTTCCACATTGACCGACTCTTCTTCAGCTTTGTGGAGGAGTGGAGTGAATCCCTGGCT GCTGTGTTCAACCTCGTCCATGTGGTGTCAGGTGTCTTCTTCTACCTGAGCTCAGCTGTC AACCCCATTATCTATAACCTACTGTCTCGCCGCTTCCAGGCAGCATTCCAGAATGTGATC TCTTCTTTCCACAAACAGTGGCACTCCCAGCATGACCCACAGTTGCCACCTGCCCAGCGG AACATCTTCCTGACAGAATGCCACTTTGTGGAGCTGACCGAAGATATAGGTCCCCAATTC CCATGTCAGTCATCCATGCACAACTCTCACCTCCCAACAGCCCTCTCTAGTGAACAGATG TCAAGAACAAACTATCAAAGCTTCCACTTTAACAAAACCTGAATTCTTTCAGAGCTGACT CTCCTCTATGCCTCAAAACTTCAGAGAGGAACATCCCATAATGTATGCCTTCTCATATGA ATAAACGTGAAAACTGAGAGTTAGATCTGGTTTCAAAACCCAAGACTGCCTGATTTTTAG TTATCTTTCCACTATCCTAACTGCCTCATGCCCCTTCACTAGTTCATGCCAAGAACGTGA CTGGAAAGGCATGGCACCTATACCTTGATTAATTTCCATTAATGGAAATGGTTCGTCCTG AGTCATCTACGTTCCGAGTCAGGCTGTCACTCCTACTA-3'

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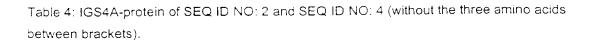
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GGCTCAGCTTGAAACAGAGCCTCGTACCAGGGGAGGCTCAGGCCTTGGATTTTAATGTCA GGGATGGAAAAACTTCAGAATGCTTCCTGGATCTACCAGCAGAAACTAGAAGATCCATTC CAGAAACACCTGAACAGCACCGAGGAGTATCTGGCCTTCCTCTGCGGACCTCGGCGCAGC CACTTCTTCCTCCCCGTGTCTGTGGTGTATGTGCCAATTTTTGTGGTGGGGGTCATTGGC AATGTCCTGGTGTGCCTGGTGATTCTGCAGCACCAGGCTATGAAGACGCCCACCAACTAC TACCTCTTCAGCCTGGCGGTCTCTGACCTCCTGGTCCTGCTCCTTGGAATGCCCCTGGAG GTCTATGAGATGTGGCGCAACTACCCTTTCTTGTTCGGGCCCGTGGGCTGCTACTTCAAG ACGGCCCTCTTTGAGACCGTGTGCTTCGCCTCCATCCTCAGCATCACCACCGTCAGCGTG GAGCGCTACGTGGCCATCCTACACCCGTTCCGCGCCAAACTGCAGAGCACCCGGCGCCGG GCCCTCAGGATCCTCGGCATCGTCTGGGGCTTCTCCGTGCTCTTCTCCCTGCCCAACACC AGCATCCATGGCATCAAGTTCCACTACTTCCCCAATGGGTCCCTGGTCCCAGGTTCGGCC ACCTGTACGGTCATCAAGCCCATGTGGATCTACAATTTCATCATCCAGGTCACCTCCTTC CTATTCTACCTCCTCCCCATGACTGTCATCAGTGTCCTCTACTACCTCATGGCACTCAGA CTAAAGAAAGACAAATCTCTTGAGGCAGATGAAGGGGAATGCAAATATTCAAAGACCCTGC AGAAAATCAGTCAACAAGATGCTGTTTGTCTTGGTCTTAGTGTTTTGCTATCTGTTGGGCC CCGTTCCACATTGACCGACTCTTCTTCAGCTTTGTGGAGGAGTGGACTGAATCCCTGGCT GCTGTGTTCAACCTCGTCCATGTGGTGTCAGGTGTCTTATTCTACCTGAGCTCAGCTGTC AACCCCATTATCTATAACCTACTGTCTCGCCGCTTCCAGGCAGCATTCCAGAATGTGATC TCTTCTTTCCACAAACAGTGGCACTCCCAGCATGACCCACAGTTGCCACCTGCCCAGCGG AACATCTTCCTGACAGAATGCCACTTTGTGGAGCTGACCGAAGATATAGGTCCCCAATTC CTATGTCAGTCATCCGTGCACAACTCTCACCTCCCAACAGCCCTCTCTAGTGAACAGATG TCAAGAACAAACTATCAAAGCTTCCACTTTAACAAAACCTGAATTCTTTCAGAGCTGACT CTCCTCTATGCCTCAAAACTTCAGAGAGGAACATCCCATAATGTATGCCTTCTCATATGA ATAAACGTGAAAACTGAGAGTTAGATCTGGTTTCAAAACCCAAGACTGCCTGATTTTTAG TTATCTTTCCACTATCCTAACTGCCTCATGCCCCTTCACTAGTTCATGCCAAGAACGTGA CTGGAAAGGCATGGCACCTATACCTTGATTAATTTCCATTAATGGAAATGGTTCGTCCTG AGTCATCTACGTTCCGAGTCAGGCTGTCACTCCTACTA-3'



(MSG) MEKLQNASWIYQQKLEDPFQKHLNSTEEYLAFLCGPRRSHFFLPVSVVYVPIFVVGV
IGNVLVCLVILQHQAMKTPTNYYLFSLAVSDLLVLLLGMPLEVYEMWRNYPFLFGPVGCY
FKTALFETVCFASILSITTVSVERYVAILHPFRAKLQSTRRRALRILGIVWGFSVLFSLP
NTSIHGIKFHYFPNGSLVPGSATCTVIKPMWIYNFIIQVTSFLFYLLPMTVISVLYYLMA
LRLKKDKSLEADEGNANIQRPCRKSVNKMLFVLVLVFAICWAPFHIDRLFFSFVEEWSES
LAAVFNLVHVVSGVFFYLSSAVNPIIYNLLSRRFQAAFQNVISSFHKQWHSQHDPQLPPA
QRNIFLTECHFVELTEDIGPQFPCQSSMHNSHLPTALSSEQMSRTNYQSFHFNKT

Table 5: IGS4B-protein of SEQ ID NO: 6 and SEQ ID NO: 8 (without the three amino acids between brackets).

(MSG) MEKLQNASWIYQQKLEDPFQKHLNSTEEYLAFLCGPRRSHFFLPVSVVYVPIFVVGV
IGNVLVCLVILQHQAMKTPTNYYLFSLAVSDLLVLLLGMPLEVYEMWRNYPFLFGPVGCY
FKTALFETVCFASILSITTVSVERYVAILHPFRAKLQSTRRRALRILGIVWGFSVLFSLP
NTSIHGIKFHYFPNGSLVPGSATCTVIKPMWIYNFIIQVTSFLFYLLPMTVISVLYYLMA
LRLKKDKSLEADEGNANIQRPCRKSVNKMLFVLVLVFAICWAPFHIDRLFFSFVEEWTES
LAAVFNLVHVVSGVLFYLSSAVNPIIYNLLSRRFQAAFQNVISSFHKQWHSQHDPQLPPA
ORNIFLTECHFVELTEDIGPOFLCQSSVHNSHLPTALSSEQMSRTNYQSFHFNKT

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DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Definitions

The following definitions are provided to facilitate understanding of certain terms used frequently herein.

"IGS4" refers, among others, to a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 (IGS4A) and SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 (IGS4B), or an allelic variant thereof.

"Receptor Activity" or "Biological Activity of the Receptor" refers to the metabolic or physiologic function of said IGS4 including similar activities or improved activities or these activities with decreased undesirable side effects. Also included are antigenic and immunogenic activities of said IGS4.

"IGS4-gene" refers to a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 or alielic variants thereof and/or their complements.

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"Antibodies" as used herein includes polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies, chimeric, single chain, and humanized antibodies, as well as Fab fragments, including the products of a Fab or other immunoglobulin expression library.

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"Isolated" means altered "by the hand of man" from the natural state and/or separated from the natural environment. Thus, if an "isolated" composition or substance that occurs in nature has been "isolated", it has been changed or removed from its original environment, or both. For example, a polynucleotide or a polypeptide naturally present in a living animal is not "isolated," but the same polynucleotide or polypeptide separated from the coexisting materials of its natural state is "isolated", as the term is employed herein.

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"Polynucleotide" generally refers to any polyribonucleotide or polydeoxribonucleotide, which may be unmodified RNA or DNA or modified RNA or DNA. "Polynucleotides" include, without limitation single- and double-stranded DNA, DNA that is a mixture of single- and double-stranded regions, single- and double-stranded RNA, and RNA that is a mixture of single- and double-stranded regions, hybrid molecules comprising DNA and RNA that may be single-stranded or, more typically, double-stranded or a mixture of single- and double-stranded regions. In addition, "polynucleotide" may also include triple-stranded regions comprising RNA or DNA or both RNA and DNA. The term polynucleotide also includes DNAs or RNAs containing one or more modified bases and DNAs or RNAs with backbones modified for stability or for other reasons. "Modified" bases include, for example, tritylated bases and unusual bases such as inosine. A variety of modifications has been made to DNA and RNA; thus, "polynucleotide" embraces chemically, enzymatically or metabolically modified forms of polynucleotides as typically found in nature, as well as the chemical forms of DNA and RNA characteristic of viruses and cells. "Polynucleotide" also embraces relatively short polynucleotides, often referred to as oligonucleotides.

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"Polypeptide" refers to any peptide or protein comprising two or more amino acids joined to each other by peptide bonds or modified peptide bonds, i.e., peptide isosteres. "Polypeptide" refers to both short chains, commonly referred to as peptides, oligopeptides or oligomers, and to longer chains, generally referred to as proteins. Polypeptides may contain amino acids other than the 20 gene-encoded amino acids. "Polypeptides" include amino acid sequences modified either by natural processes, such as posttranslational processing, or by chemical modification techniques which are well-known in the art. Such modifications are well-described in basic texts and in more detailed monographs, as well as in a voluminous research literature. Modifications can occur anywhere in a polypeptide.

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he amino acid side-chains and the amino carboxyl termini. It will be including the peptide backbo appreciated that the same type of modification may be present in the same or varying degrees at several sites in a given polypeptide. Also, a given polypeptide may contain many types of modifications. Polypeptides may be branched as a result of ubiquitination, and they may be cyclic, with or without branching. Cyclic, branched and branched cyclic polypeptides may result from posttranslation natural processes or may be made by synthetic methods. Modifications include acetylation, acylation, ADPribosylation, amidation, covalent attachment of flavin, covalent attachment of a heme moiety, covalent attachment of a nucleotide or nucleotide derivative, covalent attachment of a lipid or lipid derivative, covalent attachment of phosphotidylinositol; cross-linking, cyclization, disulfide bond formation, demethylation, formation of covalent cross-links, formation of cystine, formation of pyroglutamate, formylation, gamma-carboxylation, glycosylation, GPI anchor formation, hydroxylation, iodination, methylation, myristoylation, oxidation, proteolytic processing, phosphorylation, prenylation, racemization, selenoylation, sulfation, transfer-RNA mediated addition of amino acids to proteins such as arginylation, and ubiquitination. See, for instance, PROTEINS - STRUCTURE AND MOLECULAR PROPERTIES, 2nd Ed., T. E. Creighton, W. H. Freeman and Company, New York, 1993 and Wold, F., 1-12 in Prospects, pgs. Posttranslational Protein Modifications: Perspectives and POSTTRANSLATIONAL COVALENT MODIFICATION OF PROTEINS, B. C. Johnson, Ed., Academic Press, New York, 1983; Seifter et al., "Analysis for protein modifications and nonprotein cofactors", Meth. Enzymol. (1990) 182:626-646 and Rattan et al., "Protein Synthesis: Posttranslational Modifications and Aging", Ann. NY Acad. Sci. (1992) 663:48-62.

"Variant" as the term is used herein, is a polynucleotide or polypeptide that differs from a reference polynucleotide or polypeptide respectively, but retains essential properties. A typical variant of a polynucleotide differs in nucleotide sequence from another, reference polynucleotide. Changes in the nucleotide sequence of the variant may or may not alter the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide encoded by the reference polynucleotide. Nucleotide changes may result in amino acid substitutions, additions, deletions, fusions and truncations in the polypeptide encoded by the reference sequence, as discussed below. A typical variant of a polypeptide differs in amino acid sequence from another, reference polypeptide. Generally, differences are limited so that the sequences of the reference polypeptide and the variant are closely similar overall and, in many regions, identical. A variant and reference polypeptide may differ in amino acid sequence by one or more substitutions, additions, and deletions in any combination. A substituted or inserted amino acid residue may or may not be one encoded by the genetic code. A variant of a polynucleotide or polypeptide may be a naturally occurring such as an allelic variant, or it may be a variant that is not known to occur naturally. Non-naturally occurring variants of polynucleotides and polypeptides may be made by mutagenesis techniques or by direct synthesis.

"Identity" is a measure of the identity of nucleotide sequences or amino acid sequences. In general, the sequences are aligned so that the highest order match is obtained. "Identity" per se that are

techniques. See, art-recognized meaning and can be calculated using publish (COMPUTATIONAL MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, Lesk, A.M., ed., Oxford University Press, New York, 1988; BIOCOMPUTING: INFORMATICS AND GENOME PROJECTS. Smith, D.W., ed.; Academic Press, New York, 1993; COMPUTER ANALYSIS OF SEQUENCE DATA, PART I, Griffin, A.M., and Griffin, H.G., eds., Humana Press, New Jersey, 1994; SEQUENCE ANALYSIS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, von Heinje, G., Academic Press, 1987; and SEQUENCE ANALYSIS PRIMER, Gribskov, M. and Devereux, J., eds., M Stockton Press, New York, 1991). While there exist a number of methods to measure identity between two polynucleotide or polypeptide sequences, the term "identity" is well known to skilled artisans (Carillo, H., and Lipton, D., SIAM J. Applied Math. (1988) 48:1073). Methods commonly employed to determine identity or similarity between two sequences include, but are not limited to, those disclosed in Guide to Huge Computers, Martin J. Bishop, ed., Academic Press, San Diego, 1994, and Carillo, H., and Lipton, D., SIAM J. Applied Math. (1988) 48:1073. Methods to determine identity and similarity are codified in computer programs. Preferred computer program methods to determine identity and similarity between two sequences include, but are not limited to, GCG program package (Devereux, J., et al., Nucleic Acids Research (1984) 12(1):387), BLASTP, BLASTN, FASTA (Atschul, S.F. et al., J. Molec. Biol. (1990) 215:403).

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As an illustration, by a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence having at least, for example, 95% "identity" to a reference nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 is intended that the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide is identical to the reference sequence except that the polynucleotide sequence may include up to five point mutations per each 100 nucleotides of the reference nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1. In other words, to obtain a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a reference nucleotide sequence, up to 5% of the nucleotides in the reference sequence may be deleted or substituted with another nucleotide, or a number of nucleotides up to 5% of the total nucleotides in the reference sequence may be inserted into the reference sequence, or in a number of nucleotides of up to 5% of the total nucleotides in the reference sequence there may be a combination of deletion, insertion and substitution. These mutations of the reference sequence may occur at the 5 or 3 terminal positions of the reference nucleotide sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among nucleotides in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence.

Similarly, by a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence having at least, for example, 95% "identity" to a reference amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 is intended that the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide is identical to the reference sequence except that the polypeptide sequence may include up to five amino acid alterations per each 100 amino acids of the reference amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 2. In other words, to obtain a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a reference amino acid sequence, up to 5% of the amino acid residues in the reference sequence may be deleted or substituted with another amino acid, or a number of amino acids up to 5% of the total amino acid residues in the reference sequence may be inserted into the reference.

sequence. These alterations the reference sequence may occur at the amino or carboxy terminal positions of the reference amino acid sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among residues in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence.

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Polypeptides of the Invention

In one aspect, the present invention relates to IGS4 polypeptides (or IGS4 proteins). The IGS4 polypeptides include the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 and SEQ ID NO: 8 and the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or deposit no. CBS102221, deposited on September 24, 1999 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands; as well as polypeptides comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 and the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands and polypeptides comprising the amino acid sequence which have at least 80% identity to that of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 and/or the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands over its entire length, and still more preferably at least 90% identity, and even still more preferably at least 95% identity to said amino acid sequences. Furthermore, those with at least 97%, in particular at least 99%, are highly preferred. Also included within IGS4 polypeptides are polypeptides having the amino acid sequence which have at least 80% identity to the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 or the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or deposit no.CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands over its entire length, and still more preferably at least 90% identity, and even still more preferably at least 95% identity to SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8. Furthermore, those with at least 97%, in particular at least 99% are highly preferred. Preferably IGS4 polypeptides exhibit at least one biological activity of the receptor.

The IGS4 polypeptides may be in the form of the "mature" protein or may be a part of a larger protein such as a fusion protein. It is often advantageous to include an additional amino acid sequence which contains secretory or leader sequences, pro-sequences, sequences which aid in purification such as multiple histidine residues, or an additional sequence for stability during recombinant production.

Fragments of the IGS4 polypeptides are also included in the invention. A fragment is a polypeptide having an amino accidequence that entirely is the same as part, but not all, of the armino

acid sequence of the aforementioned IGS4 polypeptides. As with IGS4 pureptides, fragments may be "free-standing," or comprised within a larger polypeptide of which they form a part or region, most preferably as a single continuous region. Representative examples of polypeptide fragments of the invention, include, for example, fragments from about amino acid number 1-20; 21-40, 41-60, 61-80, 81-100; and 101 to the end of IGS4 polypeptide. In this context "about" includes the particularly recited ranges larger or smaller by several, 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 amino acid at either extreme or at both extremes.

Preferred fragments include, for example, truncation polypeptides having the amino acid sequence of IGS4 polypeptides, except for deletion of a continuous series of residues that includes the amino terminus, or a continuous series of residues that includes the carboxyl terminus or deletion of two continuous series of residues, one including the amino terminus and one including the carboxyl terminus. An example of a truncated polypeptide according to the present invention is the polypetide of SEQ ID NO: 10 and SEQ ID NO: 12, which is encoded by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 9 respectively SEQ ID NO: 11. Also preferred are fragments characterized by structural or functional attributes such as fragments that comprise alpha-helix and alpha-helix forming regions, beta-sheet and beta-sheet-forming regions, turn and turn-forming regions, coil and coil-forming regions, hydrophilic regions, hydrophobic regions, alpha amphipathic regions, beta amphipathic regions, flexible regions, surface-forming regions, substrate binding region, and high antigenic index regions. Other preferred fragments are biologically active fragments. Biologically active fragments are those that mediate receptor activity, including those with a similar activity or an improved activity, or with a decreased undesirable activity. Also included are those that are antigenic or immunogenic in an animal, especially in a human.

Thus, the polypeptides of the invention include polypeptides having an amino acid sequence at least 80% identical to that of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 and/or the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands, or fragments thereof with at least 80% identity to the corresponding fragment. Preferably, all of these polypeptide fragments retain the biological activity of the receptor, including antigenic activity. Variants of the defined sequence and fragments also form part of the present invention. Preferred variants are those that vary from the referents by conservative amino acid substitutions -- i.e., those that substitute a residue with another of like characteristics. Typical such substitutions are among Aia, Val, Leu and IIe; among Ser and Thr. among the acidic residues Asp and Glu; among Asn and Gln; and among the basic residues Lys and Arg; or aromatic residues Phe and Tyr. Particularly preferred are variants in which several, 5-10, 1-5, or 1-2 amino acids are substituted, deleted, or added in any combination.

Table 3: IGS4A-64-DNA of S NO: 9 and SEQ ID NO: 11

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5 ' -GGCTCAGCTTGAAACAGAGCCTCGTACCAGGGGAGGCTCAGGCCTTGGATTTTAATGTCA GGGATGGAAAACTTCAGAATGCTTCCTGGATCTACCAGCAGAAACTAGAAGATCCATTC CAGAAACACCTGAACAGCACCGAGGAGTATCTGGCCTTCCTCTGCGGACCTCGGCGCAGC CACTTCTTCCTCCCCGTGTCTGTGGTGTATGTGCCAATTTTTGTGGTGGGGGTCATTGGC AATGTCCTGGTGTGCCTGGTGATTCTGCAGCACCAGGCTATGAAGACGCCCACCAACTAC TACCTCTTCAGCCTGGCGGTCTCTGACCTCCTGGTCCTGCTCCTTGGAATGCCCCTGGAG GTCTATGAGATGTGGCGCAACTACCCTTTCTTGTTCGGGCCCGTGGGCTGCTACTTCAAG ACGGCCCTCTTTGAGACCGTGTGCTTCGCCTCCATCCTCAGCATCACCACCGTCAGCGTG GAGCGCTACGTGGCCATCCTACACCCGTTCCGCGCCAAACTGCAGAGCACCCGGCGCCGG GCCCTCAGGATCCTCGGCATCGTCTGGGGCTTCTCCGTGCTCTTCTCCCTGCCCAACACC AGCATCCATGGCATCAAGTTCCACTACTTCCCCAATGGGTCCCTGGTCCCAGGTTCGGCC ACCTGTACGGTCATCAAGCCCATGTGGATCTACAATTTCATCATCCAGGTCACCTCCTTC CTATTCTACCTCCTCCCCATGACTGTCATCAGTGTCCTCTACTACCTCATGGCACTCAGA CTAAAGAAAGACAAATCTCTTGAGGCAGATGAAGGGAATGCAAATATTCAAAGACCCTGC AGAAAATCAGTCAACAAGATGCTGTCTTTGTGGAGGAGTGGAGTGAATCCCTGGCTGCTG TGTTCAACCTCGTCCATGTGGTGTCAGGTGTCTTCTTCTACCTGAGCTCAGCTGTCAACC CCATTATCTATAACCTACTGTCTCGCCGCTTCCAGGCAGCATTCCAGAATGTGATCTCTT CTTTCCACAAACAGTGGCACTCCCAGCATGACCCACAGTTGCCACCTGCCCAGCGGAACA TCTTCCTGACAGAATGCCACTTTGTGGAGCTGACCGAAGATATAGGTCCCCAATTCCCAT GTCAGTCATCCATGCACAACTCTCACCTCCCAACAGCCCTCTCTAGTGAACAGATGTCAA CAACAACTATCAAAGCTTCCACTTTAACAAAACCTGAATTCTTTCAGAGCTGACTCTCC

ATCTACGTTCCGAGTCAGGCTGTCACTCCTACTA-3'

Table 6: IGS4A-64-protein of SEQ ID NO: 10 and SEQ ID NO: 12 (without three amino acids between brackets).

| (MSG) MEKLQWASWIYQQKLEDPFQKHLMSTEEYLAFLCGPRRSHFFLPVSVVYVPIFUVGV |
|--|
| IGNULVOLVILÇHÇAMKTPTMYYLFSLAVSDALVLLLGMPLEVYEMWRMYPFLFGPUGCY |
| FHTALFETVOFASILSITTVSVERYVAILH9FFAKLQSTRRALRILGIVWGFSVLFSLP |
| NT STHETKFHYFPNOSLYPGSATCTYTKPMWIYMFTIQYTOFLFYLLPMTYTGYLYYLMA |
| FUREL FOLEST FORISHI CE FOR KONNEW LOTWE CONNEW LLOSTOCKWOON OCT |

The iGS4 polypeptides of the invention can be prepared in any suital manner. Such polypeptides include isolated naturally occurring polypeptides, recombinantly produced polypeptides, synthetically produced polypeptides, or polypeptides produced by a combination of these methods. Methods for preparing such polypeptides are well known in the art.

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Polynucleotides of the Invention

A further aspect of the invention relates to IGS4 polynucleotides. IGS4 polynucleotides include isolated polynucleotides which encode the IGS4 polypeptides (including IGS4A and IGS4B) and fragments, and polynucleotides closely related thereto. More specifically, the IGS4 polynucleotide of the invention includes a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 encoding a IGS4A polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2 or of SEQ ID NO: 4 and a IGS4B polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 6 or of SEQ ID NO: 8 respectively, polynucleotides having the particular sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 and polynucleotides which essentially correspond to the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands.

IGS4 polynucleotides further include a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence that has at least 80% identity over its entire length to a nucleotide sequence encoding the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8, a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80% identical to that of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 over its entire length and a polynucleotide which essentially correspond to the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands.

In this regard, polynucleotides with at least 90% identity are particularly preferred, and those with at least 95% are especially preferred. Furthermore, those with at least 97% are highly preferred and those with at least 98-99% are most highly preferred, with at least 99% being the most preferred. Also included under IGS4 polynucleotides are a nucleotide sequence which has sufficient identity to a nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 or to the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or in the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands to hybridize under conditions useable for amplification or for use as a probe or marker. The invention also provides polynucleotides which are complementary to such IGS4 polynucleotides.

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IGS4 of the invention is structurally related to other proteins of the G-protein coupled receptor family, as shown by the results of BLAST searches in the public databases. The amino acid sequence of Table 1 (SEQ ID NO: 2) has about 46 % identity (using BLAST, Altschul S.F. et al. [1997], Nucleic Acids Res. 25:3389-3402, over most of its length (amino acid residues 21-338) with a human orphan G-

protein coupled receptor (Acc n # O43664, Tan et al., Genomics 52(2) 229 (1998). There is 27 % homology (over amino acid residues 61-349) to the rat neurotensin 1 receptor (Accession # P20789 Tanaka K.et al, Neuron 4:847-854 (1990)). The nucleotide sequence of Table 1 (SEQ ID NO: 1) is 63 % identical to an orphan G-protein coupled receptor over nucleotide residues 120-864 (Accession # AF044600, corresponding with the protein sequence O43664). Furthermore, there is 53 % identity to the human growth hormone secretagogue receptor over residues 94-1137 (Howard A.D.et al, Science 273:974-977(1996). Thus, IGS4 polypeptides and polynucleotides of the present invention are expected to have, inter alia, similar biological functions/properties to their homologous polypeptides and polynucleotides, and their utility is obvious to anyone skilled in the art.

Polynucleotides of the invention can be obtained from natural sources such as genomic DNA. In particular, degenerated PCR primers can be designed that encode conserved regions within a particular GPCR gene subfamily. PCR amplification reactions on genomic DNA or cDNA using the degenerate primers will result in the amplification of several members (both known and novel) of the gene family under consideration (the degenerated primers must be located within the same exon, when a genomic template is used). (Libert et al., Science, 1989, 244: 569-572). Polynucleotides of the invention can also be synthesized using well-known and commercially available techniques.

The nucleotide sequence encoding the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 may be identical to the polypeptide encoding sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 1 (nucleotide number 55 to 1299) or SEQ ID NO: 3 (nucleotide number 64 to 1299), or SEQ ID NO: 5 (nucleotide number 55 to 1299) or SEQ ID NO: 7 (nucleotide number 64 to 1299) respectively, or it may be a different nucleotide sequence, which as a result of the redundancy (degeneracy) of the genetic code might also show alterations compared to the polypeptide encoding sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7, but also encodes the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8, respectively.

When the polynucleotides of the invention are used for the recombinant production of the IGS4 polypeptide, the polynucleotide may include the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide or a fragment thereof, by itself; the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide or fragment in reading frame with other coding sequences, such as those encoding a leader or secretory sequence, a pre-, or pro- or prepro- protein sequence, or other fusion peptide portions. For example, a marker sequence which facilitates purification of the fused polypeptide can be encoded. In certain preferred embodiments of this aspect of the invention, the marker sequence is a hexa-histidine peptide, as provided in the pQE vector (Qiagen, Inc.) and described in Gentz et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA (1989) 86:821-824, or is an HA tag. The polynucleotide may also contain non-coding 5' and 3' sequences, such as transcribed, non-translated sequences, splicing and polyadenylation signals, ribosome binding sites and sequences that stabilize mRNA.

Further preferred embodiments are polynucleotides encoding IGS4—ants comprising the amino acid sequence of the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 in which several, 5-10, 1-5, 1-3, 1-2 or 1 amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added, in any combination.

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The present invention further relates to polynucleotides that hybridize to the herein above-described sequences. In this regard, the present invention especially relates to polynucleotides which hybridize under stringent conditions to the herein above-described polynucleotides. As herein used, the term "stringent conditions" means hybridization will occur only if there is at least 80%, and preferably at least 90%, and more preferably at least 95%, yet even more preferably 97, in particular at least 99% identity between the sequences.

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Polynucleotides of the invention, which are identical or sufficiently identical to a nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 or a fragment thereof, may be used as hybridization probes for cDNA and genomic DNA, to isolate full-length cDNAs and genomic clones encoding IGS4 and to isolate cDNA and genomic clones of other genes (including genes encoding homologs and orthologs from species other than human) that have a high sequence similarity to the IGS4 gene. People skilled in the art are well aware of such hybridization techniques. Typically these nucleotide sequences are 80% identical, preferably 90% identical, more preferably 95% identical to that of the referent. The probes generally will comprise at least 15 nucleotides. Preferably, such probes will have at least 30 nucleotides and may have at least 50 nucleotides. Particularly preferred probes will range between 30 and 50 nucleotides.

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One embodiment, to obtain a polynucleotide encoding the IGS4 polypeptide, including homologs and orthologs from species other than human, comprises the steps of screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 or a fragment thereof, and isolating full-length cDNA and genomic clones containing said polynucleotide sequence. Such hybridization techniques are well known to those of skill in the art. Stringent hybridization conditions are as defined above or alternatively conditions under overnight incubation at 42 °C in a solution comprising: 50% formamide, 5xSSC (150mM NaCl, 15mM trisodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10 % dextran sulfate, and 20 microgram/mi denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA, followed by washing the filters in 0.1xSSC at about 65°C.

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The polynucleotides and polypeptides of the present invention may be used as research reagents and materials for discovery of treatments and diagnostics to animal and human disease.

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The present invention also relates to vectors which comprise a polynucleotide or polynucleotides of the present invention, and host cells which are genetically engineered with vectors of the invention and to the production of polypeptides of the invention by recombinant techniques. Cell-free translation systems can also be used to produce such proteins using RNAs derived from the DNA constructs of the present invention.

For recombinant production, host cells can be genetically engineered to incorporate expression systems or portions thereof for polynucleotides of the present invention. Introduction of polynucleotides into host cells can be effected by methods described in many standard laboratory manuals, such as Davis et al., BASIC METHODS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY (1986) and Sambrook et al., MOLECULAR CLONING: A LABORATORY MANUAL, 2nd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1989) such as calcium phosphate transfection, DEAE-dextran mediated transfection, transvection, microinjection, cationic lipid-mediated transfection, electroporation, transduction, scrape loading, ballistic introduction or infection.

Representative examples of appropriate hosts include bacterial cells, such as streptococci, staphylococci, E. coli, Streptomyces and Bacillus subtilis cells; fungal cells, such as yeast cells and Aspergillus cells; insect cells such as Drosophila S2 and Spodoptera Sf9 cells; animal cells such as CHO, COS, HeLa, C127, 3T3, BHK, HEK 293 and Bowes melanoma cells; and plant cells.

A great variety of expression systems can be used. Such systems include, among others, chromosomal, episomal and virus-derived systems, e.g., vectors derived from bacterial plasmids, from bacteriophage, from transposons, from yeast episomes, from insertion elements, from yeast chromosomal elements, from viruses such as baculoviruses, papova viruses, such as SV40, vaccinia viruses, adenoviruses, fowl pox viruses, pseudorabies viruses and retroviruses, and vectors derived from combinations thereof, such as those derived from plasmid and bacteriophage genetic elements, such as cosmids and phagemids. The expression systems may contain control regions that regulate as well as engender expression. Generally, any system or vector suitable to maintain, propagate or express polynucleotides to produce a polypeptide in a host may be used. The appropriate nucleotide sequence may be inserted into an expression system by any of a variety of well-known and routine techniques, such as, for example, those set forth in Sambrook et al., MOLECULAR CLONING, A LABORATORY MANUAL (supra).

For secretion of the translated protein into the lumen of the endoplasmic reticulum, into the periplasmic space or into the extracellular environment, appropriate secretion signals may be incorporated into the desired polypeptide. These signals may be endogenous to the polypeptide or they may be heterologous signals.

If the IGS4 polypeptide is to be expressed for use in screening assays, generally, it is preferred that the polypeptide be produced at the surface of the cell. In this event, the cells may be harvested prior to use in the screening assay. In case the affinity or functional activity of the IGS4 polypeptide is modified by receptor activity modifying proteins (RAMP), coexpression of the relevant RAMP most likely at the surface of the cell is preferred and often required. Also in this event harvesting of cells expressing the IGS4 polypeptide and the relevant RAMP prior to use in screening assays is required. If the IGS4 polypeptide is secreted into the medium, the medium can be recovered in order to recover and purify the polypeptide; if produced intracellularly, the cells must first be lysed before the polypeptide is recovered.

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IGS4 polypeptides can be recovered and purified from recombinant cell cultures by well-known methods including ammonium sulfate or ethanol precipitation, acid extraction, anion or cation exchange chromatography, phosphocellulose chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, affinity chromatography, hydroxylapatite chromatography and lectin chromatography. Most preferably, high performance liquid chromatography is employed for purification. Well-known techniques for refolding proteins may be employed to regenerate active conformation when the polypeptide is denatured during isolation and or purification.

Diagnostic Assays

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This invention also relates to the use of IGS4 polynucleotides for use as diagnostic reagents. Detection of a mutated form of the IGS4 gene associated with a dysfunction will provide a diagnostic tool that can add to or define a diagnosis of a disease or susceptibility to a disease which results from under-expression, over-expression or altered expression of IGS4. Also in this event co-expression of relevant receptor activity modifying proteins can be required to obtain diagnostic assays of desired quality. Individuals carrying mutations in the IGS4 gene may be detected at the DNA level by a variety of techniques.

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Nucleic acids for diagnosis may be obtained from a subject's cells, such as from blood, urine, saliva, tissue biopsy or autopsy material. The genomic DNA may be used directly for detection or may be amplified enzymatically by using PCR or other amplification techniques prior to analysis. RNA or cDNA may also be used in similar fashion. Deletions and insertions can be detected by a change in size of the amplified product in comparison to the normal genotype. Point mutations can be identified by hybridizing amplified DNA to labeled IGS4 nucleotide sequences. Perfectly matched sequences can be distinguished from mismatched duplexes by RNase digestion or by differences in melting temperatures. DNA sequence differences may also be detected by alterations in electrophoretic mobility of DNA fragments in gels, with or without denaturing agents, or by direct DNA sequencing. See, e.g., Myers et al.. Science (1985) 230:1242. Sequence changes at specific locations may also be revealed by nuclease protection assays, such as RNase and S1 protection or the chemical cleavage method. See Cotton et al.. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA (1985) 85: 4397-4401. In another embodiment, an array of

oligonucleotide probes compared the IGS4 nucleotide sequence or aments thereof can be constructed to conduct efficient screening of e.g., genetic mutations. Array technology methods are well known and have general applicability and can be used to address a variety of questions in molecular genetics including gene expression, genetic linkage, and genetic variability. (See for example: M.Chee et al., Science, Vol 274, pp 610-613 (1996)).

The diagnostic assays offer a process for diagnosing or determining a susceptibility to CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, bulimia, stroke, addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy, through detection of mutation in the IGS4 gene by the methods described.

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In addition, CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as disease Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, bulimia, stroke, Huntington's or addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy, can be diagnosed by methods comprising determining from a sample derived from a subject an abnormally decreased or increased level of the IGS4 polypeptide or IGS4 mRNA. Decreased or increased expression can be measured at the RNA level using any of the methods well known in the art for the quantitation of polynucleotides, such as, for example, PCR, RT-PCR. RNase protection, Northern blotting and other hybridization methods. Assay techniques that can be used to determine levels of a protein, such as an IGS4, in a sample derived from a host are well known to those, of skill in the art. Such assay methods include radioimmunoassays, competitive-binding assays, Western Blot arialysis and ELISA assays.

In another aspect, the present invention relates to a diagonostic kit for a disease or suspectability to a disease, particularly CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as bulimia, stroke, Tourett's syndrome. anorexia, Huntington's disease or Gilles dela addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy, which comprises:

- (a) an IGS4 polynucleotide, preferably the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1. SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7, or a fragment thereof;
- (b) a nucleotide sequence complementary to that of (a);
- (c) an IGS4 polypeptide, preferably the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or of SEQ ID NO: 8, or a fragment thereof; or
- (d) an antibody to an IGS4 polypeptide, preferably to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or of SEQ ID NO: 8.
- (e) a RAMP polypeptide required for the relevant biological or antigenic properties of an IGS4 polypeptide

It will be appreciated that in any such kit, (a), (b), (c) (d) or (e) may comprise a substantial component.

Chromosome Assays

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The nucleotide sequences of the present invention are also valuable for chromosome identification. The sequence is specifically targeted to and can hybridize with a particular location on an individual human chromosome. The mapping of relevant sequences to chromosomes according to the present invention is an important first step in correlating those sequences with gene associated disease. Once a sequence has been mapped to a precise chromosomal location, the physical position of the sequence on the chromosome can be correlated with genetic map data. Such data are found, for example, in V. McKusick, Mendelian Inheritance in Man (available on line through Johns Hopkins University Welch Medicai Library). The relationship between genes and diseases that have been mapped to the same chromosoma region are then identified through linkage analysis (coinheritance of physically adjacent genes).

The differences in the or genomic sequence between affected and unaffected individuals can also be determined. If a mutation is observed in some or all of the affected individuals but not in any normal individuals, then the mutation is likely to be the causative agent of the disease.

Antibodies

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The polypeptides of the invention or their fragments or analogs thereof, or cells expressing them if required together with relevant RAMP's, may also be used as immunogens to produce antibodies immunospecific for the IGS4 polypeptides. The term "immunospecific" means that the antibodies have substantiall greater affinity for the polypeptides of the invention than their affinity for other related polypeptides in the prior art.

Antibodies generated against the IGS4 polypeptides may be obtained by administering the polypeptides or epitope-bearing fragments, analogs or cells to an animal, preferably a nonhuman, using routine protocols. For preparation of monoclonal antibodies, any technique, which provides antibodies produced by continuous cell line cultures, may be used. Examples include the hybridoma technique (Kohler, G. and Milstein, C., Naure (1975) 256:495-497), the trioma technique, the human B-cell hybridoma technique (Kozbor et al., Immunology Today (1983) 4:72) and the EBV-hybridoma technique (Cole et al., MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES AND CANCER THERAPY, pp. 77-96, Alan R. Liss, Inc., 1985).

The above-described antibodies may be employed to isolate or to identify clones expressing the polypeptide or to purify the polypeptides by affinity chromatography.

Antibodies against IGS4 polypeptides as such or against IGS4polypeptide-RAMP complexes, may also be employed to treat CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as anorexia, bulimia. stroke, Huntington's disease Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; maycers: urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy. among others.

Animals

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Another aspect of the invention relates to a animal-based systems which act as models for disorders arising from aberrant expression or activity of IGS4. Animal based model systems may also be used to further characterize the activity of the IGS4 gene. Such assays may be utilized as part of screening strategies designed to identify compounds which are capable to treat IGS4 based disorders such as CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, bulimia, stroke, addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy. In this way the animal-based models may be used to identify pharmaceutical compounds, therapies and interventions which may be effective in treating disorders aberrant expression or activity of IGS4. In addition such animal models may be used to determine the LD₅₀ and the ED₅₀ in animal subjects. These data may be used to determine the in vivo efficacy of potential IGS4 disorder treatments.

Animal-based model systems of IGS4 based disorders, based on aberrant IGS4 expression or activity, may include both non-recombinant animals as well as recombinantly engineered transgenic animals.

Animal models for IGS4 disorders may include, for example, genetic models. Animal models exhibiting IGS4 based disorder-like symptoms may be engineered by utilizing, for example, IGS4 sequences such as those described, above, in conjunction with techniques for producing transgenic animals that are well known to persons skilled in the art. For example, IGS4 sequences may be introduced into, and overexpressed and/or misexpressed in, the genome of the animal of interest, or, if endogenous IGS4 sequences are present, they may either be overexpressed, misexpressed, or, alternatively, may be disrupted in order to underexpress or inactivate IGS4 gene expression.

In order to overexpress or misexpress a IGS4 gene sequence, the coding portion of the IGS4 gene sequence may be ligated to a regulatory sequence which is capable of driving high level gene expression or expression in a cell type in which the gene is not normally expressed in the animal type of interest. Such regulatory regions will be well known to those skilled in the art, and may be utilized in the absence of undue experimentation.

For underexpression of endogenous IGS4 gene sequence, such sequence may be isolated and engineered such that when reintroduced into the genome of the animal of interest, the endogenous IGS4 gene alleles will be inactivated, or "knocked-out". Preferably, the engineered IGS4 gene sequence is introduced via gene targeting such that the endogenous IGS4 sequence is disrupted upon integration of the engineered IGS4 gene sequence into the animal's genome.

Gene targeting is discussed, below, in this section.

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Animals of any species, including, but not limited to, mice, rats, rabbits, guinea pigs, pigs, micropigs, goats, and non-human primates, e.g., baboons, squirrels, monkeys, and chimpanzees may be used to generate animal models of IGS4 related disorders.

Any technique known in the art may be used to introduce a IGS4 transgene into animals to produce the founder lines of transgenic animals. Such techniques include, but are not limited to pronuclear microinjection (Hoppe, P.C. and Wagner, T.E., 1989, U.S. Pat. No. 4,873,191); retrovirus mediated gene transfer into germ lines (van der Putten et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., USA 82:6148-6152, 1985); gene targeting in embryonic stem cells (Thompson et al., Cell 56:313-321, 1989,); electroporation of embryos (Lo, Mol. Cell. Biol. 3:1803-1B14, 1983); and sperm-mediated gene transfer (Lavitrano et al., Cell 57:717-723, 1989); etc. For a review of such techniques, see Gordon, Transgenic Animals, Intl. Rev. Cytol.115:171-229, 1989, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

The present invention provides for transgenic animals that carry the IGS4 transgene in all their cells, as well as animals which carry the transgene in some, but not all their cells, i.e., mosaic animals. (See, for example, techniques described by Jakobovits, Curr. Biol. 4:761-763, 1994) The transgene may be integrated as a single transgene or in concatamers, e.g., head-to-head tandems or head-to-tail tandems. The transgene may also be selectively introduced into and activated in a particular cell type by following, for example, the teaching of Lasko et al. (Lasko, M. et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:6232-6236, 1992).

The regulatory sequences required for such a cell-type specific activation will depend upon the particular cell type of interest, and will be apparent to those of skill in the art.

When it is desired that the IGS4 transgene be integrated into the chromosomal site of the endogenous IGS4 gene, gene targeting is preferred. Briefly, when such a technique is to be utilized, vectors containing some nucleotide sequences homologous to the endogenous IGS4 gene of interest (e.g., nucleotide sequences of the mouse IGS4 gene) are designed for the purpose of integrating, via homologous recombination with chromosomal sequences, into and disrupting the function of, the nucleotide sequence of the endogenous IGS4 gene. The transgene may also be selectively introduced into a particular cell type, thus inactivating the endogenous gene of interest in only that cell type, by following, for example, the teaching of Gu et al. (Gu, H. et al., Science 265:103-106, 1994). The

regulatory sequences required for such a cell-type specific inactivation cepend upon the particular cell type of interest, and will be apparent to those of skill in the art.

Once transgenic animals have been generated, the expression of the recombinant IGS4 gene and protein may be assayed utilizing standard techniques. Initial screening may be accomplished by Southern blot analysis or PCR techniques to analyze animal tissues to assay whether integration of the transgene has taken place. The level of MRNA expression of the IGS4 transgene in the tissues of the transgenic animals may also be assessed using techniques which include but are not limited to Northern blot analysis of tissue samples obtained from the animal, in situ hybridization analysis, and RT-PCR. Samples of target gene-expressing tissue, may also be evaluated immunocytochemically using antibodies specific specific for the target gene transagene product of interest. The IGS4 transgenic animals that express IGS4 gene mRNA or IGS4 transgene peptide (detected immunocytochemically, using antibodies directed against target gene product epitopes) at easily detectable levels may then be further evaluated to identify those animals which display characteristic IGS4 based disorder symptoms. Once IGS4 transgenic founder animals are produced (i.e., those animals which express IGS4 proteins in cells or tissues of interest, and which, preferably, exhibit symptoms of IGS4 based disorders), they may be bred, inbred, outbred, or crossbred to produce colonies of the particular animal. Examples of such breeding strategies include but are not limited to: outbreeding of founder animals with more than one integration site in order to establish separate lines; inbreeding of separate lines in order to produce compound IGS4 transgenics that express the IGS4 transgene of interest at higher levels because of the effects of additive expression of each IGS4 transgene; crossing of heterozygous transgenic animals to produce animals homozygous for a given integration site in order to both augment expression and eliminate the possible need for screening of animals by DNA analysis; crossing of separate homozygous lines to produce compound heterozygous or homozygous lines; breeding animals to different inbred genetic backgrounds so as to examine effects of modifying alleles on expression of the IGS4 transgene and the development of IGS4-like symptoms, one such approach is to cross the IGS4 transgenic founder animals with a wild type strain to produce an F1 generation that exhibits IGS4 related disorderlike symptoms, such as those described above. The F1 generation may then be inbred in order to develop a homozygous line, if it is found that homozygous target gene transgenic animals are viable.

Vaccines

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Another aspect of the invention relates to a method for inducing an immunological response in a mammal which comprises inoculating the mammal with the IGS4 polypeptide, or a fragment thereof, if required together with a RAMP polypeptide, adequate to produce antibody and/or T cell immune response to protect said animal from CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder. Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, deinum, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe menta retardation and

dyskinesias, such as Huntingt disease or Gilles dela Tourett's syndroms anorexia, bulimia, stroke, addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; Obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy, among others. Yet another aspect of the invention relates to a method of inducing immunological response in a mammal which comprises delivering the IGS4 polypeptide via a vector directing expression of the IGS4 polynucleotide in vivo in order to induce such an immunological response to produce antibody to protect said animal from diseases

A further aspect of the invention relates to an immunological/vaccine formulation (composition) which, when introduced into a mammalian host, induces an immunological response in that mammal to an IGS4 polypeptide wherein the composition comprises an IGS4 polypeptide or IGS4 gene. The vaccine formulation may further comprise a suitable carrier. Since the IGS4 polypeptide may be broken down in the stomach, it is preferably administered parenterally (including subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous, intradermal etc. injection). Formulations suitable for parenteral administration include aqueous and non-aqueous sterile injection solutions which may contain anti-oxidants, buffers, bacteriostats and solutes which render the formulation isotonic with the blood of the recipient; and aqueous and non-aqueous sterile suspensions which may include suspending agents or thickening agents. The formulations may be presented in unit-dose or multi-dose containers, for example, sealed ampoules and vials and may be stored in a freeze-dried condition requiring only the addition of the sterile liquid carrier immediately prior to use. The vaccine formulation may also include adjuvant systems for enhancing the immunogenicity of the formulation, such as oil-in water systems and other systems known in the art. The dosage will depend on the specific activity of the vaccine and can be readily determined by routine experimentation.

Screening Assays

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The IGS4 polypeptide of the present invention may be employed in a screening process for compounds which bind the receptor and which activate (agonists) or inhibit activation of (antagonists) the receptor polypeptide of the present invention. Thus, polypeptides of the invention may also be used to assess the binding of small molecule substrates and ligands in, for example, cells, cell-free preparations, chemical libraries; and natural product mixtures. These substrates and ligands may be natural substrates and ligands or may be structural or functional mimetics.

IGS4 polypeptides are responsible for biological functions, including pathologies. Accordingly, it is desirable to find compounds and drugs which stimulate IGS4 on the one hand and which can inhibit the

Merapeutic and prophylactic function of IGS4 on the other hand. In general, agonists are employed to purposes for such conditions as CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium. Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, bulimia, stroke, addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy. Antagonists may be employed for a variety of therapeutic and prophylactic purposes for such conditions as CNS disorders, including schizophrenia, episodic paroxysmal anxiety (EPA) disorders such as obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), phobia and panic, major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder, Parkinson's disease, general anxiety disorder, autism, delirium, Alzheimer disease/dementia, severe mental retardation and dyskinesias, such as Huntington's disease or Gilles dela Tourett's syndrome, anorexia, bulimia, stroke, addiction/dependency/craving, sleep disorder, epilepsy, migraine; attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); cardiovascular disease including heart failure, angina pectoris, arrhythmias, myocardial infarction, hypotension; hypertension, thrombosis; dyslipidemias; obesity; emesis; IBS; IBD; GERD; conditions of delayed gastric emptying, such as postoperative or diabetic gastroparesis; osteoporosis; infections such as bacterial, fungal, protozoan and viral infections, particularly infections caused by HIV-1 or HIV-2; pain; cancers; urinary retention; ulcers; asthma; allergies and benign prostatic hypertrophy.

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In general, such screening procedures involve producing appropriate cells, which express the receptor polypeptide of the present invention on the surface thereof and, if essential co-expression of RAMP's at the surface thereof. Such cells include cells from mammals, yeast, Drosophila or E. coli. Cells expressing the receptor (or cell membrane containing the expressed receptor) are then contacted with a test compound to observe binding, or stimulation or inhibition of a functional response.

One screening technique includes the use of cells which express the receptor of this invention (for example, transfected CHO cells) in a system which measures extracellular pH or intracellular calcium changes caused by receptor activation. In this technique, compounds may be contacted with cells expressing the receptor polypeptide of the present invention. A second messenger response, e.g., signal transduction, pH changes, or changes in calcium level, is then measured to determine whether the potential compound activates or inhibits the receptor.

Another method involve eening for receptor inhibitors by determining inhibition or simulation of receptor-mediated cAMP and/or adenylate cyclase accumulation. Such a method involves transfecting an eukaryotic cell with the receptor of this invention to express the receptor on the cell surface. The cell is then exposed to potential antagonists in the presence of the receptor of this invention. The amount of cAMP accumulation is then measured. If the potential antagonist binds the receptor, and thus inhibits receptor binding, the levels of receptor-mediated cAMP, or adenylate cyclase, activity will be reduced or increased.

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Another method for detecting agonists or antagonists for the receptor of the present invention is the yeast-based technology as described in U.S. Patent 5,482,835, incorporated by reference herein.

The assays may simply test binding of a candidate compound wherein adherence to the cells bearing the receptor is detected by means of a label directly or indirectly associated with the candidate compound or in an assay involving competition with a labeled competitor. Further, these assays may test whether the candidate compound results in a signal generated by activation of the receptor, using detection systems appropriate to the cells bearing the receptor at their surfaces. Inhibitors of activation are generally assayed in the presence of a known agonist and the effect on activation by the agonist by the presence of the candidate compound is observed.

Further, the assays may simply comprise the steps of mixing a candidate compound with a solution containing an IGS4 polypeptide to form a mixture, measuring the IGS4 activity in the mixture, and comparing the IGS4 activity of the mixture to a standard.

The IGS4 cDNA, protein and antibodies to the protein may also be used to configure assays for detecting the effect of added compounds on the production of IGS4 mRNA and protein in cells. For example, an ELISA may be constructed for measuring secreted or cell associated levels of IGS4 protein using monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies by standard methods known in the art, and this can be used to discover agents which may inhibit or enhance the production of IGS4 (also called antagonist or agonist, respectively) from suitably manipulated cells or tissues. Standard methods for conducting screening assays are well known in the art.

Examples of potential IGS4 antagonists include antibodies or, in some cases, oligonucleotides or proteins which are closely related to the ligand of the IGS4, e.g., a fragment of the ligand, or small molecules which bind to the receptor but do not elicit a response, so that the activity of the receptor is prevented.

Thus in another aspect, the present invention relates to a screening kit for identifying agonists, antagonists, ligands, receptors, substrates, enzymes, etc. for IGS4 polypeptides; or compounds which decrease or enhance the production of IGS4 polypeptides, which comprises:

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- (a) an IGS4 polypeptide, preferably that of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8:
- (b) a recombinant cell expressing an IGS4 polypeptide, preferably that of of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8;
- (c) a cell membrane expressing an IGS4 polypeptide; preferably that of of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8; or
- (d) antibody to an IGS4 polypeptide, preferably that of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8.

It will be appreciated that in any such kit, (a), (b), (c) or (d) may comprise a substantial component.

Prophylactic and Therapeutic Methods

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This invention provides methods of treating abnormal conditions related to both an excess of and insufficient amounts of IGS4 activity.

If the activity of IGS4 is in excess, several approaches are available. One approach comprises administering to a subject an inhibitor compound (antagonist) as hereinabove described along with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in an amount effective to inhibit activation by blocking binding of ligands to the IGS4, or by inhibiting interaction with a RAMP polypeptide or a second signal, and thereby alleviating the abnormal condition.

In another approach, soluble forms of IGS4 polypeptides still capable of binding the ligand in competition with endogenous IGS4 may be administered. Typical embodiments of such competitors comprise fragments of the IGS4 polypeptide.

In still another approach, expression of the gene encoding endogenous IGS4 can be inhibited using expression-blocking techniques. Known such techniques involve the use of antisense sequences, either internally generated or separately administered. See, for example, O'Connor, J Neurochem (1991) 56:560 in Oligodeoxynucleotides as Antisense Inhibitors of Gene Expression, CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida USA (1988). Alternatively, oligonucleotides, which form triple helices with the gene, can be supplied. See, for example, Lee et al., Nucleic Acids Res (1979) 6:3073; Cooney et al., Science (1988) 241:456; Dervan et al, Science (1991) 251:1360. These oligomers can be administered per se or the relevant oligomers can be expressed in vivo.

For treating abnormal conditions related to an under-expression of IGS4 and its activity, several approaches are also available. One approach comprises administering to a subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which activates IGS4, i.e., an agonist as described above, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to thereby alleviate the abnormal condition. Alternatively, gene therapy may be employed to effect the endogenous production of IGS4 by the

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relevant cells in the subject. example, a polynucleotide of the invention may be engineered for expression in a replication defective retroviral vector, as discussed above. The retroviral expression construct may then be isolated and introduced into a packaging cell transduced with a retroviral plasmid vector containing RNA encoding a polypeptide of the present invention such that the packaging cell now produces infectious viral particles containing the gene of interest. These producer cells may be administered to a subject for engineering cells in vivo and expression of the polypeptide in vivo. For overview of gene therapy, see Chapter 20, Gene Therapy and other Molecular Genetic-based Therapeutic Approaches, (and references cited therein) in Human Molecular Genetics, Strachan T. and Read A.P., BIOS Scientific Publishers Ltd (1996).

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Formulation and Administration

Peptides, such as the soluble form of IGS4 polypeptides, and agonists and antagonist peptides or small molecules, may be formulated in combination with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier. Such formulations comprise a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide or compound, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient. Formulation should suit the mode of administration, and is well within the skill of the art. The invention further relates to pharmaceutical packs and kits comprising one or more containers filled with one or more of the ingredients of the aforementioned compositions of the invention.

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Polypeptides and other compounds of the present invention may be employed alone or in conjunction with other compounds, such as therapeutic compounds.

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Preferred forms of systemic administration of the pharmaceutical compositions include injection, typically by intravenous injection. Other injection routes, such as subcutaneous, intramuscular, or intraperitoneal, can be used. Alternative means for systemic administration include transmucosal and transdermal administration using penetrants such as bile salts or fusidic acids or other detergents. In addition, if properly formulated in enteric or encapsulated formulations, oral administration may also be possible.

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The dosage range required depends on the choice of peptide, the route of administration, the nature of the formulation, the nature of the subject's condition, and the judgment of the attending practitioner. Suitable dosages, however, are in the range of 0.1-100 µg/kg of subject. Wide variations in the needed dosage, however, are to be expected in view of the variety of compounds available and the differing efficiencies of various routes of administration. For example, oral administration would be expected to require higher dosages than administration by intravenous injection. Variations in these dosage levels can be adjusted using standard empirical routines for optimization, as is well understood in the art.

Polypeptides used in treatment can also be generated endogenous, in the subject, in treatment modalities often referred to as "gene therapy" as described above. Thus, for example, cells from a subject may be engineered with a polynucleotide, such as a DNA or RNA, to encode a polypeptide ex vivo, and for example, by the use of a retroviral plasmid vector. The cells are then introduced into the subject.

EXAMPLE 1. THE CLONING OF CDNA ENCODING A NOVEL G PROTEIN-COUPLED RECEPTOR.

10 Example 1a. Homology PCR cloning of a genomic fragment encoding a novel G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR).

A PCR based homology cloning strategy was used to isolate partial genomic DNA sequences encoding novel G-protein coupled receptors. Forward (F22) and reverse (R44 and R46) degenerate PCR primers were designed in conserved areas of the neurotensin receptor gene family (Vita N. et al. [1993] Febs Lett. 317, 139-142; Vita N. et al. [1998] Eur. J. Pharmacol. 360, 265-272) within transmembrane domains 1 (TM1) and 3 (TM3) and at the boundary between TM3 and intracellular loop 2 (I2):

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F22 (TM1):

5'-CTCATCTTCGCGGTGGGC(A or G)C(A,C,G or T)G(C or T)(A,C,G or T)GG-3'

(SEQ ID NO: 13)

25 R44 (TM3/I2):

5'-GGCCAGGCAGCGCTCCGCGCT(C or Inosine)A(A or G)(A,C,G or T)C(C or T)(A,C,G or T)GC(A,G or T)-3'

(SEQ ID NO: 14)

30 R46 (TM3):

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5'-GAA(A or G)TA(A or G)TAGCC(A or G)CG(A or G)CAGCC(A or T)-3'

(SEQ ID NO: 15)

In order to suppress amplification of known members of the neurotensin receptor family, the 3' ultimate nucleotide position of primer R44 was chosen in such a way that is was not complementary to the corresponding position of both NTR1 and NTR2 cDNA. The primary PCR reaction was carried out in a 60µl volume and contained 100ng human genomic DNA (Clontech), 6 µl GeneAmpTM 10 x PCR buffer it (100mM Tris-HCl pH 8.3; 500 mM KCl, Perkin Elmer), 3.6 µl 25 mM MgCl₂ 0.36 µl dNTPs (25mM of each dNTP), 1.5 units AmpliTac-GoidTM polymerase (Perkin Elmer) and 30 pmoles of each of the degenerated forward (F22) and reverse primer (R44). Reaction tubes were heated at 95 C for 10 min

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and then subjected to 35 cycles of denaturation (95°C, 1 min), annealing C, 2 min) and extension (72°C, 3min). Finally reaction tubes were heated for 10 min at 72°C.

For the semi-nested PCR reaction 1 μ l of a 1/50 dilution of the primary PCR reaction was used as a template using the degenerate forward and reverse primers F22 and R46 respectively. The semi-nested PCR reaction was carried out under the same conditions as the primary PCR reaction.

Semi-nested PCR reaction products were size fractionated on an agarose gel and stained with ethidium bromide. Although a fragment of ± 220 bp was expected, only a fragment of ± 120 bp was visible. This fragment was purified from gel using the Qiaex-IITM purification kit (Qiagen) and ligated into the pGEM-T plasmid according to the procedure recommended by the supplier (pGEM-T kit, Promega). The recombinant plasmids thus produced were used to transform competent E. coli SURETM 2 bacteria (Stratagene). Transformed cells were plated on LB agar plates containing ampicillin (100 μg/ml), IPTG (0.5 mM) and X-gal (50 μg/ml). Plasmid DNA was purified from mini-cultures of individual colonies using a Qiagen-tip 20 miniprep kit (Qiagen). DNA sequencing reactions were carried out on the purified plasmid DNA with the ABI PrismTM BigDyeTM Terminator Cycle Sequencing Ready Reaction kit (PE-ABI), using insert-flanking primers.

Table 7: overview of oligo primers used.

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| SEQ ID NO: 13 | |
|----------------|--|
| JEQ 15 140. 13 | F22: 5'-CTCATCTTCGCGGTGGGC(A or G)C(A,C,G or T)G(C or T)(A,C,G or |
| | T)GG-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 14 | R44: 5'-GGCCAGGCAGCGCTCCGCGCT(C or !nosine)A(A or G)(A,C,G or T)C(C |
| | or T)(A,C,G or T)GC(A,G or T)-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 15 | R46: 5'-GAA(A or G)TA(A or G)TAGCC(A or G)CG(A or G)CAGCC(A or T)-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 16 | AP1: 5'-CCATCCTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 17 | AP2: 5'-ACTCACTATAGGGCTCGAGCGGC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 18 | IGS4R1: 5'GGATCCCAAATAAGAAAGGGTAGTTGC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 19 | IGS4R2: 5'AAAGGGTAGTTGCGCCACATCTCATAGAC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 20 | IGS4F5: 5'AGGTCTATGAGATGTGGCGCAACTACCCT-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 21 | IGS4F6: 5'ATGTGGCGCAACTACCCTTTCTTATTTGGG-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 22 | R74: 5'-CGGAAGTTGGCGGACACG(A or G)(A,C or G)(A or G)TT(A or G)TA-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 23 | IGS4F7: 5'-GCTCAGCTTGAAACAGAGCCTCGTACC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 24 | IGS4F8: 5'-CCATGTGGATCTACAATTTCATCATCC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 25 | IGS4F9: 5'-AAGACAAATCTCTTGAGGCAGATGAAGGG-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 26 | IGS4F10: 5'-GATGCTGTTTGTCTTGGTCTTAGTGTTTGC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 27 | IGS4R5: 5'-GGATGATGAAATTGTAGATCCACATGGGC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 28 | IGS4R6: 5'-TGTGGAGAAGTCTCTCAAAGTGTGG-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 29 | IGS4R7: 5'-TAGTAGGAGTGACAGCCTGACTCGGAACG-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 30 | IGS4R8: 5'-AACGTAGATGACTCAGGACGAACCATTTCC-3' |
| SEQ ID NO: 31 | IGS4F11: 5'-TCGTACCAGGGGAGGCTCAGGC 3' |
| | |

Sequencing reaction products were purified via EtOH/NaOAc precipitation and analyzed on an ABI 377 automated sequencer.

Sequence analysis of the insert of clone HNT1552 showed that it potentially encoded part of a novel member of the GPCR family. We refer to this novel GPCR sequence as IGS4.

Example 1b. Cloning of cDNA fragments containing the complete IGS4 coding sequence.

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The complete coding sequence of IGS4 cDNA was obtained via both RACE analysis (rapid amplification of cDNA ends) and RT-PCR amplification. 5'- and 3' RACE PCR reactions were performed on Marathon-Ready™ cDNA from human brain or testis (Clontech n° 7400-1 and 7414-1 respectively), using the adaptor primers 1 and 2 (AP1: SEQ ID NO: 16; AP2: SEQ ID NO: 17) provided with the Marathon™ cDNA amplification kit (Clontech K1802-1) and IGS4 specific primers. PCR RACE reactions were performed according to the instructions of the Marathon-Ready™ cDNA user manual provided by Clontech. RACE products were separated on agarose gel, visualized with ethidium bromide and blotted onto Hybond N⁺ membranes. Blots were prehybridized at 65°C for 2 h in modified Church buffer (0.5M phosphate, 7% SDS, 10 mM EDTA) and then hybridised overnight at 65°C in the same buffer containing 2 x 10° cpm / ml of a ³2P-labelled IGS4 cDNA probe. IGS4 cDNA probes were radiolabelled via random primed incorporation of [α-³2P]dCTP to a specific activity of > 10° cpm/μg using the Prime-It II kit™ (Stratagene) according to the instructions provided by the supplier. Hybridized blots were washed at high stringency (2 x 30 min at room temperature in 2 x SSC/ 0.1% SDS, followed by 2 washes of 40 min at 65°C in 0.1 x SSC, 0.1% SDS) and autoradiographed overnight. Hybridizing fragments were purified from a preparative gel, cloned into the pGEM-T vector and sequenced as described above.

An initial round of semi-nested 5' RACE analysis on human brain cDNA using the IGS4 specific primers IGS4R1 (SEQ ID NO: 18) and IGS4R2 (SEQ ID NO: 19)(designed on the DNA sequence of clone HNT1552) yielded clones HNT1886 and HNT1887 (Fig.1). These clones extended the IGS4 cDNA sequence upstream up to and beyond the putative start of translation codon. Likewise an initial round of 3' RACE analysis on human brain cDNA using IGS4 specific primers IGS4F5 (SEQ ID NO: 20) and IGS4F6 (SEQ ID NO: 21) yielded clones HNT1874-1878 and HNT1902-1903 (Fig.1). These clones extended the known IGS4 cDNA at the 3' end.

All sequences obtained at this point were assembled into a single contig which contained a long open reading frame, encoding part of a novel protein that was most similar to human orphan receptor FM-3 (Tan et al., Genomics 52, 223-229 [1998], GenBank accession n° AF044600 and AF044601). To investigate the RNA expression profile of IGS4, a Master Blot[™] membrane (Clontech cat n° 7770-1) containing RNA from different human tissues was hybridized to the ³²P-labelled insert of clone HNT1903 under the conditions recommended by the supplier. The strongest hybridization was obtained with testis RNA whereas much weaker signals were obtained in prostate, stomach, spinal cord, hippocampus, medulla oblongata, thyroid gland, thymus, lung and trachea.

Since the control sequence did not yet contain the complete IGS4 coding sequence we set up an

RT-PCR homology cloning emment on human total brain RNA using specific primer IGS4F6 (SEQ ID NO: 21) and a degenerated primer (R74, SEQ ID NO: 22), which was designed in a conserved area (at the TM7/C-terminal intracellular part) of the GPCR subfamily composed of the neurotensin receptors 1 and 2, the growth hormone secretagogue receptor (Howard A.D. et al.[1996] Science 273, 974-977) and the orphan GPCR FM-3 and GPR38 (McKee K.K. et al.[1997] Genomics 46, 426-434). RT-PCR reactions were carried out in a 50 µl volume on 500 ng total RNA from human brain using the Titan[™] One Tube RT-PCR System (Boehringer catalogue n° 1,888,382) according to the recommendations of the supplier. Briefly, RT-PCR conditions were as follows: reverse transcription for 45 min at 55°C; 2 min denaturation at 94°C, followed by a touch-down PCR reaction of 20 cycles (30 sec denaturation at 94°C, 30 sec annealing at 60°C [-0.25°C/cycle] and 2 min extension at 68°C) and an additional round of 30 PCR cycles (30 sec denaturation at 94°C, 30 sec annealing at 55°C and 3 min [+ 5 sec/cycle] extension at 68°C). This was concluded with an extra extension step of 7 min at 68°C. Reaction products were analyzed via Southern blotting using the radiolabelled insert of clone HNT1903. A fragment of ± 690 bp that hybridized to the probe was purified from the gel (QiaexII™, Qiagen) and cloned into the pGEM-T vector yielding clones HNT2210-2212. Sequence analysis of these clones allowed to extend the existing IGS4 cDNA contig in the 3' direction.

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Since the extended IGS4 cDNA contig still did not yet contain a translational stop codon, additional IGS4 specific 3' RACE primers were designed (IGS4F7-10, SEQ ID NO: 23-26)). Nested or semi-nested 3' RACE reactions were carried out on Marathon ReadyTM cDNA from human testis (Clontech 7414-1). IGS4 specific bands (as assessed via Southern blot analysis using an IGS4 specific probe) were cloned into pGEM-T. This yielded clones HNT2289-90 (AP1/IGS4F5->AP2/IGS4F9), HNT2293-2295 (AP1/IGS4F6->AP2/IGS4F9), HNT2296-2297 (AP1/IGS4F7->AP2/IGS4F9), HNT2308-2310 (AP1/IGS4F8->AP2/IGS4F10) HNT2253 (AP1/IGS4F7->AP1/IGS4F5). An additional 5' RACE PCR reaction carried out on testis Marathon ReadyTM cDNA yielded clones HNT2279-2281 (AP2/IGS4R6->AP2/IGS4R5). (note: AP1/IGS4F5->AP2/IGS4F9 e.g. indicates that clones were generated from an IGS4 specific fragment obtained after the primary RACE PCR reaction [using primer pair AP1/IGS4F5] was nested with primer pair AP2/IGS4F9).

Sequence analysis of these clones allowed to extend the existing IGS4 cDNA contig further in the 3' direction although the end of the IGS4 coding sequence was not yet been reached. A computer-assisted homology search (Blastn; Altschul S.F. et al., Nucleic Acids Res. (1997) 25:3389-3402) of the IGS4 contig DNA sequence against the expressed sequence tag (EST) database (dbest) showed the presence of an EST sequence (accession n° N45474) which overlapped with the 3' end of the IGS4 contig (near 100 % identity in the overlap area). EST N45474 further extended the IGS4 DNA contig at the 3' end into a translational stop codon and into the 3' untranslated region (3'-UTR). In addition another set of ESTs was identified which all covered the 3'-UTR of the IGS4 mRNA (Fig.2). Additional IGS4 specific primers (IGS4R7-8, SEQ ID NO: 29-30)) were designed within the 3'-UTR of these ESTs. Primary PCR reactions were carried out on Marathon ReadyTM cDNA from human testis using various combinations of the IGS4F7 (SEQ ID NO: 23), IGS4F11 (SEQ ID NO: 31) and IGS4R7-8 (SEQ ID NC: 29-30) primers. PCR tubes were heated for 2 min at 95°C and then subjected to 35 cycles of

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denaturation (95°C, 30 sec), annealing (65°C, 30 sec) and extension (750, 1 min 30 sec). Finally the reactions tubes were heated at 72°C for 10 min. Nested PCR reactions were also carried out under the same conditions. DNA fragments of \pm 1630 bp were purified from gel and cloned into the pGEM-T vector. The following clones were obtained: HNT2311, HNT2312 and HNT2317 (IGS4F7/IGS4R7->IGS4F11/IGS4R8); HNT2313, HNT2324, HNT2326 and HNT2328 (IGS4F11->IGS4R8); HNT2314, HNT2315 and HNT2322 (IGS4F11->R7). Clone HNT2363 was obtained from a purified 1630 bp PCR fragment, that was amplified from human testis Marathon Ready™ cDNA using the IGS4F11/R7 primer pair under the following slightly modified conditions. After an initial denaturation of 2 min at 94°C, PCR tubes were subjected to 15 cycles of denaturation [15 sec, 94°C], annealing [30 sec, 65°C] and extension [2 min, 72°C] followed by another 20 cycles of denaturation [15 sec, 94°C], annealing [30 sec, 65°C] and extension [2 min, 72°C; +10sec/cycle]. There was a final extension step of 7 min at 72°C. Sequence analysis of these clones allowed to assemble an IGS4 cDNA consensus sequence (Fig.1). Close inspection of all clones showed that they actually were of 2 sequence types, which differed at 5 nucleotide positions. These variant sequences correspond to a polymorphism within the human population. We refer to these different cDNA types as IGS4ADNA (SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 3) and IGS4BDNA (SEQ ID NO: 5 and SEQ ID NO: 7). The consensus sequence contained a long open reading frame that contained two in-frame start codons (positions 55-57 (SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 5) and 64-66 (SEQ ID NO: 3 and SEQ ID NO: 7) in IGS4ADNA and IGS4BDNA), predicting a protein of either 415 (SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 6) or 412 (SEQ ID NO: 4 and SEQ ID NO: 8) amino acids, which showed good homology to GPCR proteins. Hydropathy analysis (Kyte J. et al.[1982] J. Mol. Biol. 157; 105-132; Klein P.et al.[1985] Biochim. Biophys. Acta 815:468-476) of the protein also indicated the presence of 7 transmembrane domains. Since the first ATG initiator codon is within a weak "Kozak" translation initiation context and the second one is in a strong Kozak context, it is likely that the IGS4A/B protein starts at the second methionine and is 412 amino acids long (Kozak M. [1999] Gene 234, 187-208). However some (or even exlusive) initiation at the first ATG cannot be excluded. Among the five polymorphic nucleotides, four (positions 947, 999, 1202 and 1216 in IGS4A/BDNA) resulted in a switch in the encoded amino acid residue, whereas the fifth (pos 1381 in IGS4A/BDNA) was within the 3'-UTR. The respective predicted protein sequences are referred to as IGS4APROT (SEQ ID NO: 2 and SEQ ID NO: 4) and IGS4BPROT (SEQ ID NO: 6 and SEQ ID NO: 8). (note 1: the sequence of IGS4APROT and IGS4BPROT in this document is represented as the longest possible (415 amino acids) sequence but it is understood that the actual protein might be 3 amino acids shorter at the aminoterminus; for this reason the first 3 amino acids of IGS4APROT and IGS4BPROT in Table 4 and 5 have been bracketed) (note 2: In this document IGS4 refers to the IGS4 sequence in general, irrespective of the particular allelic type). Homology searches of the IGS4 protein sequence against public domain protein databanks showed best homology to the human orphan GPCR FM-3 (accession no O43664, Tan C.P., et al. Genomics (1998) 52: 223-229; 46% identity in IGS4A amino acid residues 26-342).

Homology searches of DNA databanks with the IGS4 cDNA sequence yielded a number of entries which were also derived from the IGS4 gene locus (Fig.2 for overview):

- 10 EST sequence entries ession nrs W61169, Al432384, W61131, Ald23570, F01358, F03770, Z38158, R40869, R37725, H11333), 2 STS (sequence tagged sites) (accession nrs G20615 and G05725) and one genomic sequence (accession nr AQ078563) were discovered which were all derived from the 3'-UTR of IGS4 cDNA.
- EST accession n° N45474 encoded the 3' end of the IGS4 coding sequence and part of the 3' UTR (cfr supra).
 - A 'working draft' high throughput genomic sequence (accession nr AC008571, version AC008571.1, deposited 3 AUG 1999), which consisted of 42 unordered contigs assembled in an arbitrary order was discovered in which we detected the entire IGS4 cDNA sequence in 4 separate areas. These areas most likely correspond to the different IGS4 exons as they were flanked by canonical splice donor and acceptor sequences. On the basis of this analysis the position of the different exons in the IGS4ADNA (or IGS4BDNA) sequence can be defined as follows: exon1 (1-780), exon 2 (781-865), exon 3 (866-991) and exon 4 (992-1658). The AC008571genomic sequence is of the IGS4A allelic type.

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- 6 overlapping EST entries (accession nrs H11359, R13890, R13353, F07531, F05108, F05107)
 were discovered of which the assembled DNA sequence overlapped at its 3' end with IGS4 exon2
 and the beginning of exon 3. However the DNA sequence upstream of exon 2 was completely
 different from IGS4 exon1. Probably these six EST's are derived from transcripts which originated
 from an alternative promoter.
 - Finally 2 genomic sequence entries (accession nrs AQ019411 and AQ015065) were discovered which encoded exon 2.

Among the many IGS4 cDNA clones that we isolated in the different experiments described above, we also discovered a number of clones that contained a 64 bp deletion (pos 866-929 in IGS4ADNA) (besides a number of clones derived from unspliced [or partially spliced] transcripts). So far we only discovered truncated transcripts of the polymorphic type A. We refer to this splice variant cDNA sequence as IGS4A-64DNA (SEQ ID NO: 9 and SEQ ID NO: 11). Since this deletion occurs exactly at the exon 2/exon 3 boundary and since the last 2 nucleotides of the deleted fragment are "AG", it is likely that this deletion represents an alternative splicing event in which the "AG" within exon 3 served as a splice acceptor. The IGS4A reading frame encoded by the splice variant is frameshifted beyond the deletion point. The encoded (truncated) protein of 296 amino acids is referred to as IGS4A-64PROT (SEQ ID NO: 10 and SEQ ID NO: 12). Hydropathy analysis of the IGS4A-64PROT sequence shows that this protein only contains 5 transmembrane domains (corresponding to TM domains 1-5 of IGS4APROT). This truncated receptor might have physiological relevance.

The bacterial strain harboring plasmid HNT2322 (containing the IGS4ADNA insert) was recloned after replating on LB agar plates containing 100 µg ampicillin/ml and deposited both in the Innogenetics N.V. strain list (ICCG4320) and at the "Centraalbureau voor Schimmelculturen (CBS)" in Baarn, The Netherlands (accession n° CBS102221). Plasmid DNA was prepared from the recloned isolate and the insert was resequenced and found to be identical to the IGS4ADNA sequence.

The bacterial strain harboring plasmid HNT2363 (containing the IGS4BDNA insert) was

rectoned after replating on LB agar plates containing 100 µg ampicillination and deposited both in the Innogenetics N.V. strain list (ICCG4340) and at the "Centraaibureau voor Schimmelculturen (CBS)" in Baarn, The Netherlands (accession n° CBS102222). Plasmid DNA was prepared from the recioned isolate and the insert was resequenced and found to be identical to the IGS4BDNA sequence.

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All publications, including but not limited to patents and patent applications, cited in this specification are herein incorporated by reference as if each individual publication were specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference herein as though fully set forth.

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The figures show:

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Fig.1 Schematic representation of the relative positions of the different cDNA clones that were isolated to generate the consensus IGS4 cDNA sequence. 5' and 3' RACE primers that were used are also indicated (IGS4R# and IGS4F# respectively) as well as the position of EST accession n° N45474. Primer IGS4R6 was located within intron 1. Some clones (e.g. HNT2311, HNT2312 and HNT2253) were only partially sequenced (only the part that was sequenced is indicated). CONSENSUS A and CONSENSUS B denote the consensus sequence of IGS4 allelic types A and B respectively. The nucleotide that was identified at each of the 4 polymorphic positions is indicated (shaded boxes) for each clone. "S" indicates a sequence ambiguity in clones HNT2211 and HNT2212 and means either "C" or "T". The coding area of IGS4A and IGS4B consensus sequences is indicated with "***". As there were some remaining sequence ambiguities in the 5' end of the consensus sequence, the IGS4ADNA and IGS4BDNA sequences have only been taken from position 86 until the end

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Fig.2

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Schematic representation of the relative positions of different DNA database entries compared to the IGS4 cDNA sequence. The IGS4 cDNA sequence is indicated with the boxes (the position of the IGS4 coding sequences is indicated with the filled boxes). The relative position of IGS4 exons 1-4 is indicated above the IGS4 cDNA sequence ("=="). The parts of the genomic sequence AC008571 that encode exons 1->4 are indicated with AC008571a->d respectively. The position of these fragments within the AC008571 sequence are: AC008571a (13129-13908 of the reverse complement of AC008571), AC008571b (51676-51760 of AC008571), AC008571c (79978-80103 of the reverse complement of AC008571) and AC008571d (83060-83728 of the reverse complement of AC008571). G05725 and G20615 are STS (sequence tagged sequence) entries whereas F05107, F05108, F07531, R13353, R13890, H11359, N45474, W61169, Al432384, W61131, Al023570, F01358, F03770, Z38158, R40869, R37725. H11333 are EST entries. The parts of genomic clones AQ019411 and AQ015065 that contain IGS4 exon 2 are indicated with "i". The 5' part of EST sequences F05107, F05108, F07531.

R13353, R13890 an 1359 which is totally different from the SS4 cDNA sequence is indicated with "*". AQ078563 is a genomic clone.

SEQUENCE LISTING

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Tyr Tyr Leu Phe Ser Leu Ala Val Ser Asp Leu Leu Val Leu Leu Leu

90

2.5

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| 50 | | | | | | | | | | | | : Leu | | | | ttc Phe | |
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| 10 | | cta Leu | | | | | | | | | | 540 |
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| 20 | _ | aac Asn | _ | | | | _ | | | | | 636 |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | aac Asn | 970 |
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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | ` | | | | |
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| | aac Asn 320 | ccc Pro | att Ile | atc Ile | tat Tyr | aac Asn 325 | cta Leu | ctg Leu | tot Ser | cgc Arg | cgc Arg 330 | ttc Phe | cag Gln | gca Ala | gca Ala | ttc Phe 335 | 1068 |
| 5 | cag Gln | aat Asn | gtg Val | atc Ile | tct Ser 340 | tct Ser | ttc Phe | cac His | aaa Lys | cag Gln 345 | tgg Trp | cac His | tcc Ser | cag Gln | cat His 350 | gac Asp | 1116 |
| 10 | cca Pro | cag Gln | ttg Leu | cca Pro 355 | cct Pro | gcc Ala | cag Gln | cgg Arg | aac Asn 360 | atc Ile | ttc Phe | ctg Leu | aca Thr | gaa Glu 365 | tgc Cys | cac His | 1164 |
| 15 | ttt Phe | gtg Val | gag Glu 370 | ctg Leu | acc Thr | gaa Glu | gat Asp | ata Ile 375 | ggt Gly | ccc Pro | caa Gln | ttc Phe | cca Pro 380 | tgt Cys | cag Gln | tca Ser | 1212 |
| 20 | tcc Ser | atg Met 385 | cac His | aac Asn | tct Ser | cac His | ctc Leu 390 | cca Pro | aca Thr | gcc Ala | ctc Leu | tct Ser 395 | agt Ser | gaa Glu | cag Gln | atg Met | 1260 |
| 20 | tca Ser 400 | aga Arg | aca Thr | aac Asn | tat Tyr | caa Gln 405 | agc Ser | ttc Phe | cac His | ttt Phe | aac Asn 410 | aaa Lys | acc Thr | tga | attc. | ttt | 1309 |
| 25 | caga | agcto | gac 1 | tctc | ctcta | at g | cctc | aaaa | c tt | caga | gagg | aac | atcc | cat | aatg | tatgcc | 1369 |
| | ttct | cata | atg a | atati | taga | ga g | gtag | aatg | g ct | ctta | caac | tca | tgta | .ccc | attg | ctagtt | 1429 |
| | ttti | tttt | tt a | aata | aacgi | tg a | aaac | tgag | a gt | taga | tctg | gtt | tcaa | .aac | ccaa | gactgo | : 1489 |
| 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | tcatgo | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ggaaat | |
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| 40 | <21 <21 | 0 > 4 1 > 4 2 > Pl 3 > Ho | RT | sapi | ens | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 45 | | | Lys | Leu | Gln 5 | Asn | Ala | Ser | Trp | Ile 10 | | c Glr | n Gli | a Ly: | s Lei 1! | ı Glu 5 | |
| | Asp | Pro | Phe | Gln 20 | Lys | His | Leu | . Asn | Ser 25 | | Glu | ı Glı | ı Tyr | r Le | | a Phe | |
| 50 | Leu | Cys | Gly 35 | | Arg | Arg | Ser | His | | : Phe | e Let | ı Pro | val | | r Va | l Val | |
| 55 | Tyr | Val 50 | Pro | Ile | Fhe | Val | Val 55 | | . Val | Ile | e Gly | y Asi 61 | | l le | u Va | l Cys | |

| | Leu 65 | Val | Ile | Leu | Gln | His TC | Gln | Ala | Met | Lys | Thr TS | Pro | Thr | Asn | Tyr | 80 Iyr |
|----|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| 5 | Leu | Phe | Ser | Leu | Ala 85 | Val | Ser | Asp | Leu | Leu 90 | Val | Leu | Leu | Leu | Gly 95 | Met |
| | Pro | Leu | Glu | Val 100 | Tyr | Glu | Met | Trp | Arg 105 | Asn | Tyr | Pro | Phe | Leu 110 | Phe | Gly |
| 10 | Pro | Val | Gly 115 | Cys | Tyr | Phe | Lys | Thr 120 | Ala | Leu | Phe | Glu | Thr 125 | Val | Cys | Phe |
| 15 | Ala | Ser 130 | Ile | Leu | Ser | Ile | Thr 135 | Thr | Val | Ser | Val | Glu 140 | Arg | Tyr | Val | Ala |
| 10 | Ile 145 | Leu | His | Pro | Phe | Arg 150 | Ala | Lys | Leu | Gln | Ser 155 | Thr | Arg | Arg | Arg | Ala 160 |
| 20 | Leu | Arg | Ile | Leu | Gly 165 | Ile | Val | Trp | Gly | Phe 170 | Ser | Val | Leu | Phe | Ser 175 | Leu |
| | Pro | Asn | Thr | Ser 180 | Ile | His | Gly | Ile | Lys 185 | Phe | His | Tyr | Phe | Pro 190 | Asn | Gly |
| 25 | Ser | Leu | Val 195 | Pro | Gly | Ser | Ala | Thr 200 | Cys | Thr | Val | Ile | Lys 205 | Pro | Met | Trp |
| 30 | Ile | Tyr 210 | Asn | Phe | Ile | Ile | Gln 215 | Val | Thr | Ser | Phe | Leu 220 | Phe | Tyr | Leu | Leu |
| | Pro 225 | Met | Thr | Val | Ile | Ser 230 | Val | Leu | Tyr | Tyr | Leu 235 | | Ala | Leu | Arg | Leu 240 |
| 35 | Lys | Lys | Asp | Lys | Ser 245 | Leu | Glu | Ala | Asp | Glu 250 | | Asn | Ala | . Asn | Ile 255 | Gln |
| | Arg | Pro | Cvs | Arg 260 | Lys | Ser | Val | Asn | Lys 265 | | Leu | Phe | Val | Leu 270 | | Leu |
| 40 | Val | Phe | Ala 275 | Ile | Cys | Trp | Ala | Pro 280 | | His | Ile | Asp | 285 | | . Phe | : Phe |
| 45 | Ser | Phe 290 | | Glu | Glu | Trp | Ser 295 | | Ser | Leu | . Ala | . Ala 300 | | . Phe | e Asi | ı Leu |
| | Wal 305 | | Val | Val | Ser | Gly 310 | Val | Phe | Phe | Tyr | let 315 | | s Ser | r Ala | ı Val | Asn 320 |
| 50 | Pro | Ile | Ile | Tyr | Asn 325 | | Leu | . Ser | Arg | 330 | | e Glr | : Ala | a Ala | a Phe 335 | e Gln |
| | Asn | ∵al | Ile | Ser 340 | | Fhe | His | by s | Gl:: 345 | | His | : Sei | s Gl: | 1 Hi: | | e Fro |
| 55 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

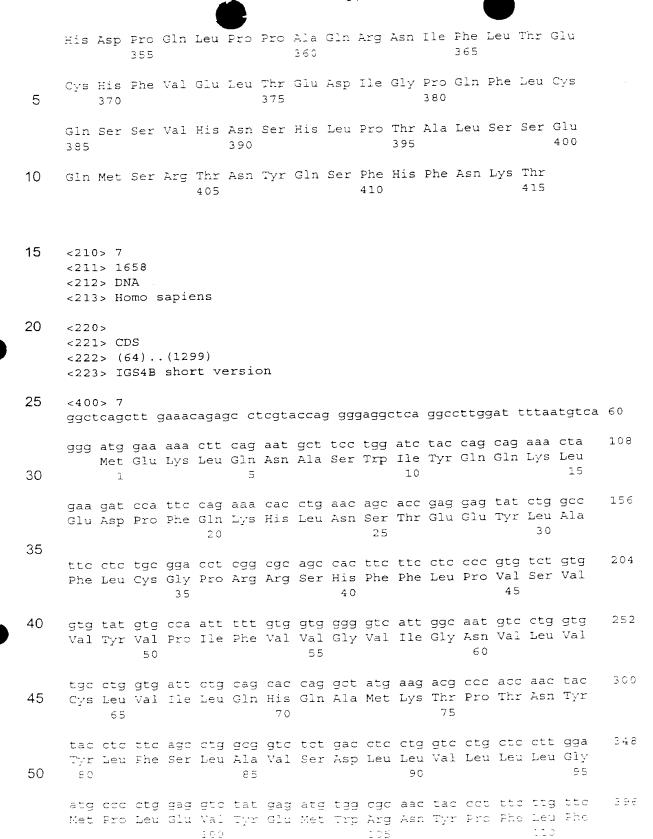
| | Gln | Leu | Pro 355 | Pro | Ala | Gln | Arg | Asn 360 | Ile | Phe | Leu | | Glu (365 | Cys H | His : | Phe | |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| 5 | Val | Glu 370 | Leu | Thr | Glu | Asp | Ile 375 | Gly | Pro | Gln | Phe | Pro 380 | Cha | Gln : | Ser | Ser | |
| | Met 385 | His | Asn | Ser | His | Leu 390 | Pro | Thr | Ala | Leu | Ser 395 | Ser | Glu | Gln ! | Met | Ser 400 | |
| 10 | Arg | Thr | Asn | Tyr | Gln 405 | Ser | Phe | His | Phe | Asn 410 | Lys | Thr | | | | | |
| 15 | <212 | L> 16 2> Di | | sapie | ens | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | <222 | L> CI 2> (5 | 0S 55) 3S4B | | | csion | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | <400 ggct |)> 5 cage | ctt <u>s</u> | gaaa | cagaç | gc ct | tegta | accas | a aa: | gagg | ctca | ggc | cttg | gat t | tta | atg Met 1 | 57 |
| 30 | tca Ser | ggg Gly | atg Met | gaa Glu 5 | aaa Lys | ctt Leu | cag Gln | aat Asn | gct Ala 10 | tcc Ser | tgg Trp | atc Ile | tac Tyr | cag Gln 15 | cag Gln | aaa Lys | 105 |
| 35 | cta Leu | gaa Glu | gat Asp 20 | cca Pro | ttc Phe | cag Gln | aaa Lys | cac His 25 | Leu | aac Asn | agc Ser | acc Thr | gag Glu 30 | gag Glu | tat Tyr | ctg Leu | 153 |
| 40 | Ala | ttc Phe 35 | Leu | tgc Cys | Gly | cct Pro | Arg | Arg | Ser | His | Phe | Phe | Leu | ccc Pro | gtg Val | tct Ser | 201 |
| 45 | gtg Val 50 | gtg Val | tat Tyr | gtg Val | cca Pro | att Ile 55 | ttt Phe | gtg Val | gtg Val | ggg | gtc Val 60 | Ile | ggc Gly | aat Asn | gtc Val | ctg Leu 65 | 249 |
| '1 | gtg Val | tgc Cys | ctg Leu | gtg Val | att Ile 70 | ctg Leu | cag Gln | cac His | cag Gln | gct Ala 75 | Met | aag Lys | acg Thr | ccc Pro | acc Thr 80 | aac Asn | 297 |
| 50 | | | | | | | | | | Asp | | | | | Leu | ctt Leu | 345 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | aac Asn | | | | | 393 |
|----|------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|-----|------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-----|
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | ctc Leu 125 | | | | | 441 |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | agc Ser | | | | | 489 |
| 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | cag Gln | | | | | 537 |
| 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | ttc Phe | | | | | 585 |
| 20 | tcc Ser | ctg Leu | ccc Pro 180 | aac Asn | acc Thr | agc Ser | atc Ile | cat His 185 | ggc | atc Ile | aag Lys | ttc Phe | cac His 190 | tac Tyr | ttc Phe | ccc Pro | 633 |
| 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | acg Thr 205 | | | | | 681 |
| 30 | | | | | | | | | | | | tcc Ser | | | | | 729 |
| 35 | | | | | | | | | | | | tac Tyr | | | | | 777 |
| 40 | | | | | Asp | | Ser | Leu | | Ala | | gaa Glu | | | | | 825 |
| 70 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ttg Leu | 873 |
| 45 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ctc Leu | 921 |
| 50 | | | | | | | | | | | | Leu | | | | tto Phe | 969 |
| 55 | | | | | | | | | | | 11:6 | | | | | egat Ala | |

| 5 | gtc Val | aac Asn | ccc Pro | att Ile 325 | atc Ile | tat Tyr | aac Asn | cta Leu | ctg Leu 330 | tct Ser | cgc Arg | cgc Arg | ttc Phe | cag Gln 335 | gca Ala | gca Ala | 1065 |
|----|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
| 5 | ttc Phe | cag Gln | aat Asn 340 | gtg Val | atc Ile | tot Ser | tct Ser | ttc Phe 345 | cac His | aaa Lys | cag Gln | tgg Trp | cac His 350 | tcc Ser | cag Gln | cat His | 1113 |
| 10 | gac Asp | cca Pro 355 | cag Gln | ttg Leu | cca Pro | cct Pro | gcc Ala 360 | cag Gln | cgg Arg | aac Asn | atc Ile | ttc Phe 365 | ctg Leu | aca Thr | gaa Glu | tgc Cys | 1161 |
| 15 | cac His 370 | ttt Phe | gtg Val | gag Glu | ctg Leu | acc Thr 375 | gaa Glu | gat Asp | ata Ile | ggt Gly | ccc Pro 380 | caa Gln | ttc Phe | cta Leu | tgt Cys | cag Gln 385 | 1209 |
| 20 | tca Ser | tcc Ser | gtg Val | cac His | aac Asn 390 | tct Ser | cac His | ctc Leu | cca Pro | aca Thr 395 | gcc Ala | ctc Leu | tct Ser | agt Ser | gaa Glu 400 | cag Gln | 1257 |
| 25 | | | | | aac Asn | | | | | | | | | | | | 1299 |
| 25 | tgaa | attct | ttt (| caga | gctga | ac t | ctcc | tcta [.] | t gc | ctca | aaac | ttc | agag | agg | aaca | itcccat | 1359 |
| | aat | gtate | gcc ' | ttat | cata | tg a | aatt | agag. | a gg | taga | atgg | ctc | ttac | aac | tcat | gtaccc | 1419 |
| 30 | att | gctag | gtt ' | tttt | tttt | tt a | ataa | acgt | g aa | aact | gaga | gtt | agat | ctg | gttt | caaaac | 1479 |
| | cca | agaci | tgc · | ctga | tttt | ta g | ttat | cttt | с са | ctat | ccta | act | gcct | cat | gccc | cttcac | 1539 |
| 35 | tag | ttca | tgc · | caag. | aacg | tg a | ctgg | aaag | g ca | tggc | acct | ata | cctt | gat | taat | ttccat | . 1599 |
| | taa | tgga | aat (| ggtt | cgtc | ct g | agtc | atct | a cg | ttcc | gagt | cag | gctg | jtca | ctco | ctacta | 1658 |
| 40 | <21 <21 | 0 > 6 1 > 4 2 > P 3 > H | RT | sapi | ens | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 45 | | 0> 6 Ser | Gly | Met | Glu 5 | Lys | Leu | Gln | Asn | Ala 10 | | Trp |) Il€ | e Ty: | r Gl: | n Gln 5 | |
| | Lys | Leu | Glu | Asp 20 | | Phe | Gln | Lys | His | | . Asr | n Ser | Thi | c Gli 3 | | u Tyr | |
| 50 | leu | Ala | Phe 35 | Leu | | Gly | Pro | Arg 40 | Arg | | His | s Phe | e Phe | | u Pr | o Val | |
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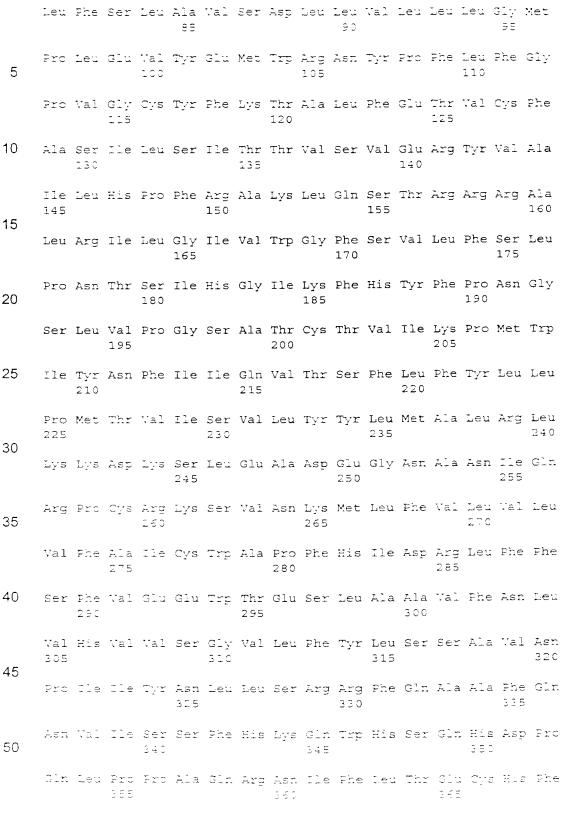
| | Leu 65 | Val | Cys | Leu | Val | Tle 70 | Leu | Gln | His | Gln | Ala 75 | Met | Lys | Thr | Pro | Thr 80 |
|----|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------|
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| 10 | Leu | Gly | Met | Pro 100 | leu | Glu | Val | Tyr | Glu 105 | Met | Trp | Arg | Asn | Tyr 110 | Pro | Phe |
| 10 | Leu | Phe | Gly 115 | Pro | Val | Gly | Cys | Tyr 120 | Phe | Lys | Thr | Ala | Leu 125 | Phe | Glu | Thr |
| 15 | Val | Cys 130 | Phe | Ala | Ser | Ile | Leu 135 | Ser | Ile | Thr | Thr | Val 140 | Ser | Val | Glu | Arg |
| | Tyr 145 | Val | Ala | Ile | Leu | His 150 | Pro | Phe | Arg | Ala | Lys 155 | Leu | Gln | Ser | Thr | Arg 160 |
| 20 | Arg | Arg | Ala | Leu | Arg 165 | Ile | Leu | Gly | Ile | Val 170 | Trp | Gly | Phe | Ser | Val 175 | Leu |
| 25 | Phe | Ser | Leu | Pro 180 | Asn | Thr | Ser | Ile | His 185 | Gly | Ile | Lys | Phe | His 190 | Tyr | Phe |
| | Pro | Asn | Gly 195 | Ser | Leu | Val | Pro | Gly 200 | Ser | Ala | Thr | Cys | Thr 205 | Val | Ile | Lys |
| 30 | Pro | Met 210 | Trp | Ile | Tyr | Asn | Phe 215 | Ile | Ile | Gln | Val | Thr 220 | Ser | Phe | Leu | Phe |
| | Tyr 225 | Leu | Leu | Pro | Met | Thr 230 | Val | Ile | Ser | Val | Leu 235 | Tyr | Tyr | Leu | Met | Ala 240 |
| 35 | Leu | Arg | Leu | Lys | Lys 245 | Asp | Lys | Ser | Leu | Glu 250 | | Asp | Glu | Gly | Asn 255 | Ala |
| 40 | Asn | Ile | Gln | Arg 260 | Pro | Cys | Arg | Lys | Ser 265 | | Asn | Lys | Met | Leu 270 | | Val |
| | Leu | Val | Leu 275 | | Phe | Ala | Ile | Cys 280 | | Ala | . Pro | Phe | His 285 | | e Asp | Arg |
| 45 | Leu | Phe 290 | | Ser | Phe | Val | Glu 295 | | Trp | Thr | Glu | Ser 300 | | ı Ala | a Ala | val |
| | Phe 305 | | Leu | Val | His | Val 310 | | . Ser | Gly | · Val | . Leu 315 | | e Tyn | : Let | : Sei | 320 |
| 50 | Ala | ∵al | Asn | Pro | 11e 325 | | Tyr | - Asn | . Leu | . Dei 330 | | n Arg | g Ars | g Phe | e Gla 333 | n Ala |
| 55 | Ala | Phe | Gln | Asn 340 | | 716 | Ser | · Ser | 5 Fhe | | lys | ; glr | : Trţ | His BE: | | r Gln |





| | 37. 33 3 | ccc Pro | gtg Val | ggc Gly 115 | tgc Cys | tac Tyr | tto Phe | aag Lys | acg Thr 120 | god Ala | ctc Leu | ttt Phe | gag Glu | acc Thr 125 | gtg Val | tgo Cys | 444 |
|----|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|------|
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | gtg Val | | | | | 492 |
| 10 | gcc Ala | atc Ile 145 | cta Leu | cac His | ccg Pro | ttc Phe | cgc Arg 150 | gcc Ala | aaa Lys | ctg Leu | cag Gln | agc Ser 155 | acc Thr | cgg Arg | cgc Arg | cgg Arg | 540 |
| 15 | gcc Ala 160 | ctc Leu | agg Arg | atc Ile | ctc Leu | ggc Gly 165 | atc Ile | gtc Val | tgg Trp | ggc Gly | ttc Phe 170 | tcc Ser | gtg Val | ctc Leu | ttc Phe | tcc Ser 175 | 588 |
| 20 | ctg Leu | ccc Pro | aac Asn | acc Thr | agc Ser 180 | atc Ile | cat His | ggc Gly | atc Ile | aag Lys 185 | ttc Phe | cac His | tac Tyr | ttc Phe | ccc Pro 190 | aat Asn | 636 |
| 20 | ggg ggg | tcc Ser | ctg Leu | gtc Val 195 | cca Pro | ggt Gly | tcg Ser | gcc Ala | acc Thr 200 | tgt Cys | acg Thr | gtc Val | atc Ile | aag Lys 205 | ccc Pro | atg Met | 684 |
| 25 | tgg Trp | atc Ile | tac Tyr 210 | aat Asn | ttc Phe | atc Ile | atc Ile | cag Gln 215 | gtc Val | acc Thr | tcc Ser | ttc Phe | cta Leu 220 | ttc Phe | tac Tyr | ctc Leu | 732 |
| 30 | ctc Leu | ccc Pro 225 | atg Met | act Thr | gtc Val | atc Ile | agt Ser 230 | gtc Val | ctc Leu | tac Tyr | tac Tyr | ctc Leu 235 | atg Met | gca Ala | ctc Leu | aga Arg | 780 |
| 35 | cta Leu 240 | aag Lys | aaa Lys | gac Asp | aaa Lys | tct Ser 245 | ctt Leu | gag Glu | gca Ala | gat Asp | gaa Glu 250 | ggg Gly | aat Asn | gca Ala | aat Asn | att Ile 255 | 828 |
| 40 | caa Gln | aga Arg | acc Pro | tgc C∵s | aga Arg 260 | aaa Lys | tca Ser | gtc Val | aac Asn | aag Lys 265 | atg Met | ctg Leu | ttt Phe | gtc Val | ttg Leu 270 | gtc Val | 876 |
| 40 | tta Leu | gtg Val | ttt Phe | got Ala 275 | atc Ile | tgt Cys | tgg Trp | gcc Ala | ccg Pro 280 | ttc Phe | cac | : att | gac Asp | cga Arg 285 | Let | ttc Phe | 924 |
| 45 | ttc Phe | agc Ser | ttt Phe 190 | gtg Val | gag Glu | gag Glu | tgg Trp | act Thr 295 | Glu | tcc Ser | ctg Leu | g gct 1 Ala | gct Ala 300 | a Val | g tto Phe | aac Asn | 972 |
| 50 | | | | | | | | · Val | | | | | ı Sei | | | i gtd a Val | 1020 |
| 55 | | | | | | | Leu | | | | | ; Pho | | | | a ttc a Phe 335 | 1068 |

| 5 | cag Gln | aat Asn | gtg Val | atc Ile | tct Ser 340 | tot Ser | ttc Phe | cac His | aaa Lys | cag Gln 345 | tgg Trp | cac His | tcc Ser | cag Gln | cat His 350 | gac Asp | 1116 |
|----|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|------|
| J | cca Pro | cag Gln | ttg Leu | cca Pro 355 | cct Pro | gcc Ala | cag Gln | cgg Arg | aac Asn 360 | atc Ile | ttc Phe | ctg Leu | aca Thr | gaa Glu 365 | tgc Cys | cac His | 1164 |
| 10 | ttt Phe | gtg Val | gag Glu 370 | ctg Leu | acc Thr | gaa Glu | gat Asp | ata Ile 375 | ggt Gly | ccc Pro | caa Gln | ttc Phe | cta Leu 380 | tgt Cys | cag Gln | tca Ser | 1212 |
| 15 | tcc Ser | gtg Val 385 | cac His | aac Asn | tct Ser | cac His | ctc Leu 390 | cca Pro | aca Thr | gcc Ala | ctc Leu | tct Ser 395 | agt Ser | gaa Glu | cag Gln | atg Met | 1260 |
| 20 | tca Ser 400 | aga Arg | aca Thr | aac Asn | tat Tyr | caa Gln 405 | agc Ser | ttc Phe | cac His | ttt Phe | aac Asn 410 | aaa Lys | acc Thr | tga | attc | ttt | 1309 |
| | caga | agcto | gac t | ctc | ctcta | at go | cata | aaaa | e tt | caga | gagg | aac | atcc | cat | aatg | tatgcc | 1369 |
| 25 | ttc | tcata | atg a | aaati | tagag | ga g | gtag | aatg | g ct | ctta | caac | tca | tgta | ccc | attg | ctagtt | 1429 |
| 25 | ttt | tttt | ttt a | aataa | aacgt | g a | aaac | tgag | a gt | taga | tctg | gtt | tcaa | aac | ссаа | igactgc | 1489 |
| | ctg | attti | tta 🤉 | gttai | tatti | :c c | acta | taat. | a ac | tgcc | tcat | gcc | cctt | cac | tagt | tcatgo | 1549 |
| 30 | caa | gaac | gtg a | actg | gaaa | gg c | atgg | cacc | t at | acct | tgat | taa | tttc | cat | taat | ggaaat | 1609 |
| | ggt | tcgt | cct (| gagt | catc | ta c | gttc | cgag | t ca | ggct | gtca | ctc | ctac | ta: | | | 1658 |
| 35 | <21 <21 | 0 > 8 1 > 4 2 > P 3 > H | | sapi | ens | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 45 | Asp | Pro | Fhe | Gln 20 | Lys | His | Leu | . Asn | Ser 25 | | Glı | ı Glu | туі | s Lei 31 | | a Phe | |
| | Leu | Cys | Gly 35 | Pro | Arg | Arg | Ser | His 40 | | e Phe | e Lei | ı Pro | val 45 | | r Va | l Val | |
| 50 | Tyr | Val 50 | | Ile | Phe | Val | Val | | Val | . Ile | e Gly | . Ası 60 | | l Le | u Va | l Cys | |
| | leu Vo | Val | ile | leu | Gln | Hiz | Gln | . Ala | . Met | : Lys | Thi | | o Th | r Ao | n mi | r Tyr er | |



| | Val | Glu 370 | Leu | Thr | Glu | Asp | Ile 375 | Gly | Pro | Gln | Phe | Leu 380 | Cys | Gln | Ser | Ser | |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------------|-------|
| 5 | Val 385 | His | Asn | Ser | His | Leu 390 | Pro | Thr | Ala | Leu | Ser 395 | Ser | Glu | Gln | Met | Ser 400 | |
| | Arg | Thr | Asn | Tyr | Gln 405 | Ser | Phe | His | Phe | Asn 410 | Lys | Thr | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | <212 |)> 9 L> 15 2> DN 3> Ho | IA | apie | ens | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | <222 | L> CI 2> (5 | 55) | | | 1G b∈ | NA lo | ong v | versi | ion | | | | | | | |
| 25 | |)> 9 ccago | ett g | gaaac | cagag | gc ct | cgta | accaç | g gg9 | gaggo | ctca | ggc | ettg | gat | ttta | atg Met 1 | 57 |
| 25 | tca | aaa | ato | даа | aaa | ctt | cag | aat | act | tcc | taa | atc | tac | cag | cag | aaa | 105 |
| 30 | Ser | Gly | Met | Glu 5 | Lys | Leu | Gln | Asn | Ala 10 | Ser | Trp | Ile | Tyr | Gln 15 | Gln | Lys | |
| 30 | cta Leu | gaa Glu | gat Asp 20 | cca Pro | ttc Phe | cag Gln | aaa Lys | cac His 25 | ctg Leu | aac Asn | agc Ser | acc Thr | gag Glu 30 | gag Glu | tat Tyr | ctg Leu | 153 |
| 35 | gcc Ala | ttc Phe 35 | ctc Leu | tgc Cys | gga Gly | cct Pro | cgg Arg 40 | cgc Arg | agc Ser | cac His | ttc Phe | ttc Phe 45 | ctc Leu | ccc Pro | gtg Val | tct Ser | 201 |
| 40 | gtg Val 50 | gtg Val | tat Tyr | gtg Val | cca Pro | att Ile 55 | ttt Phe | gtg Val | gtg Val | Gly 999 | gtc Val 60 | Ile | ggc | aat Asn | gto Val | ctg Leu 65 | 249 |
| 45 | gtg Val | tgc Cys | ctg Leu | gtg Val | att Ile 70 | ctg Leu | cag Gln | cac His | cag Gln | gct Ala 75 | atg Met | aag Lys | acg Thr | r CCC | acc Thr | aac Asn | 297 |
| 50 | tac Tyr | tac Tyr | ctc Leu | ttc Phe 85 | agc Ser | ctg Leu | gcg Ala | gtc Val | tct Ser 90 | gac Asp | ctc Leu | ctg Leu | gto | cts Lev | : Lei | ctt Leu | 345 |
| | | | | | | | | | Met | | | | | Fr | | ttg e Leu | 5 Q E |

| | | | | | | | | | ٠, ٢ | J | | | | | | Dir Coo | 00, |
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| | aat Asn | 999 Gly 195 | tcc Ser | ctg Leu | gtc Val | cca Pro | ggt Gly 200 | tcg Ser | gcc Ala | acc Thr | tgt Cys | acg Thr 205 | gtc Val | atc Ile | aag Lys | ccc Pro | 681 |
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| 10 | Tyr 225 | Leu | Leu | Pro | Met | Thr 230 | Val | Ile | Ser | Val | Leu 235 | Tyr | Tyr | Leu | Met | Ala 240 | |
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Claims

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15

20

1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a nucleotide sequence encoding the IGS4 polypeptide according to SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8.
- b) a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands, in particular a nucleotide sequence corresponding to the SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7.
- a nucleotide sequence having at least 80 % (preferably at least 90%) sequence identity over its entire length to the nucleotide sequence of (a) or (b);
- d) a nucleotide sequence which is complimentary to the nucleotide sequence of (a) or (b) or (c).
- The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 1 encoding the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2 or the nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 3 encoding the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 4 or the nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 5 encoding the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 6 or the nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO: 7 encoding the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 8.
- The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that is at least 80% identical to that of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 or to the sequence of the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands over its entire length.
- The polynucleotide of claim 3 which is the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 5 or SEQ ID NO: 7 or the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands.
- 35 5. The polynucleotide of claim 1-4 which is DNA or RNA.

- 6. A DNA or RNA molecule comprising an expression system, wherein said expression system is capable of producing an IGS4 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence, which has at least 80% identity with the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 or SEQ ID NO: 8 or with the polypeptide encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraaibureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands, when said expression system is present in a compatible host cell.
- 7. A host cell comprising the expression system of claim 6.

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- 8. A host cell according to claim 7 which is a yeast cell
- 9. A host cell according to claim 7 which is an animal cell
- 15 10. IGS4 receptor membrane preparation derived from a cell according to claim 7-9.
 - 11. A process for producing an IGS4 polypeptide comprising culturing a host of claim 7 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide and recovering the polypeptide from the culture.

20

12. A process for producing a cell which produces an IGS4 polypeptide comprising transforming or transfecting a host cell with the expression system of claim 6 such that the host cell, under appropriate culture conditions, produces an IGS4 polypeptide.

25 13. An IGS4 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ NO: 4, SEQ NO: 6 or SEQ NO: 8 or to the polypeptide encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221

or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands over its entire length.

30

The polypeptide of claim 13 which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ NO: 6 or SEQ NO: 8 or the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands.

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15. An antibody immunospecific for the IGS4 polypeptide of claim 13.

- 16. A method for the treatment of a subject in need of enhanced activity or expression of IGS4 polypeptide of claim 13 comprising:
 - (a) administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an agonist to said receptor; and/or
 - (b) providing to the subject an isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence that has at least 80% identity to a nucleotide sequence encoding the IGS4 polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ NO: 6 or SEQ NO: 8 or the polypeptide encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands over its entire length; or a nucleotide sequence complementary to one of said nucleotide sequences in a form so as to effect production of said receptor activity in vivo.
- 17. A method for the treatment of a subject having need to inhibit activity or expression of IGS4 polypeptide of claim 13 comprising:
 - (a) administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an antagonist to said receptor; and/or
 - (b) administering to the subject a nucleic acid molecule that inhibits the expression of the nucleotide sequence encoding said receptor; and/or
 - (c) administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide that competes with said receptor for its ligand.
- 18. A process for diagnosing a disease or a susceptibility to a disease in a subject related to expression or activity of the IGS4 polypeptide of claim 13 in a subject comprising:
 - (a) determining the presence or absence of a mutation in the nucleotide sequence encoding said IGS4 polypeptide in the genome of said subject; and/or
 - (b) analyzing for the presence or amount of the IGS4 polypeptide expression in a sample derived from said subject.
- 30 19. A method for identifying agonists to the IGS4 polypeptide of claim 13 comprising:
 - (a) contacting a cell which produces a IGS4 polypeptide with a test compound; and
 - (b) determining whether the test compound effects a signal generated by activation of the IGS4 polypeptide.
- 35 20. An agonist identified by the method of claim 19.

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- 21. The method for identifying antagonists to the IGS4 polypeptide of claim 13 comprising:
 - (a) contacting a cell which produces a IGS4 polypeptide with an agonist; and
 - (b) determining whether the signal generated by said agonist is diminished in the presence of a candidate compound.

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22. An antagonist identified by the method of claim 21.

23. A recombinant host cell produced by a method of claim 12 or a membrane thereof expressing an IGS4 polypeptide.

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- 24. A method of creating a genetically modified non-human animal comprising the steps of
 - (a) ligating the coding portion of a nucleic acid molecule, consisting essentially of a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ NO: 6 or SEQ NO: 8 or the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands or a biologically active portion of one of said sequences, to a regulatory sequence which is capable of driving high level gene expression or expression in a cell type in which the gene is not normally expressed in said animal; or

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(b) isolation and engineering the coding portion of a nucleic acid molecule, consisting essentially of a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ NO: 6 or SEQ NO: 8 or the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands or a biologically active portion of one of said sequences, and reintroducing said sequence in the genome of said animal in such a way that the endogenous gene alleles, encoding a protein having the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ NO: 6 or SEQ NO: 8 or the amino acid sequence encoded by the DNA insert contained in the deposit no. CBS102221 or the deposit no. CBS102222 at the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at Baarn the Netherlands or a biologically active portion of one of said sequences, are fully or partially inactivated.

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Fig. 1

| | DRAFT | 2/2 DIR 0566 | 3P |
|----|-----------|----------------------|----|
| | F05167 | **** | |
| | F05108 | **** | |
| | F07531 | **** | |
| | R13353 | ****++ | , |
| 5 | R13890 | **** | |
| | H11359 | *****++ | |
| | AQ019411 | +:+ | |
| 10 | AQ015065 | +:+ | |
| 10 | AC008571a | +========+ | |
| | AC008571b | +=+ | |
| | AC008571c | +=+ | |
| | AC008571d | +========+ | |
| 15 | | ++ | |
| | IGS4DNA | | |
| | N45474 | +> | |
| | W61169 | +> | |
| | G20615 | <+ | |
| 20 | AI432384 | <+ | |
| | W61131 | <+ | |
| | AI023570 | · <+ | |
| | F01358 | <+ | |
| | F03770 | <+ | |
| 25 | Z38158 | <+ | |
| | G05725 | <+ | |
| | R40869 | <+ | |
| | R37725 | <+ | |
| | H11333 | <+ , | |
| 30 | AQ078563 | < - | |
| | | | |
| | | 0 600 1200 1800 2400 | |

Fig.2